

# THORGAL

**Ogotai's Crown**

**ROSINSKI - VAN HAMME**



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# THORGAL

## Ogotai's Crown



Colour work: GRAZA





WE MUST SAIL FORTH AGAIN, SHAIKAN...



THE MEN ARE GETTING RESTLESS. WINTER AND IDLENESS WEIGH ON THEM. THEY HUNGER FOR FIGHTING AND PLUNDER. UNLESS WE LAUNCH ANOTHER RAID, THEY'LL BECOME IMPOSSIBLE TO CONTROL.

WHY BOTHER?...



WHY ALL THIS POINTLESS KILLING? ALL THOSE DESTROYED VILLAGES, THOSE PRISONERS THAT WE SELL AS SLAVES BY THE HUNDREDS? ... THIS IS NOT THE LIFE I LONG FOR, KRISS.

WHY BOTHER? SO WE CAN IMPOSE OUR LAW, MY BELOVED: THE LAW OF SHAIKAN THE MERCILESS!

EVERY LORD FROM THE SURROUNDING LANDS PAYS US TRIBUTE. OUR COFFERS OVERFLOW WITH GOLD. THE CELTS, THE SAXONS AND EVEN THE VIKINGS FEAR US. WITHIN A FEW YEARS, WE CAN BE THE MASTERS OF EVERY KNOWN AND UNKNOWN LAND SURROUNDING THIS SEA. YOU WILL BE THE GREATEST CONQUEROR SINCE ALEXANDER.



FORGIVE ME FOR INTRODUCING, LORD...

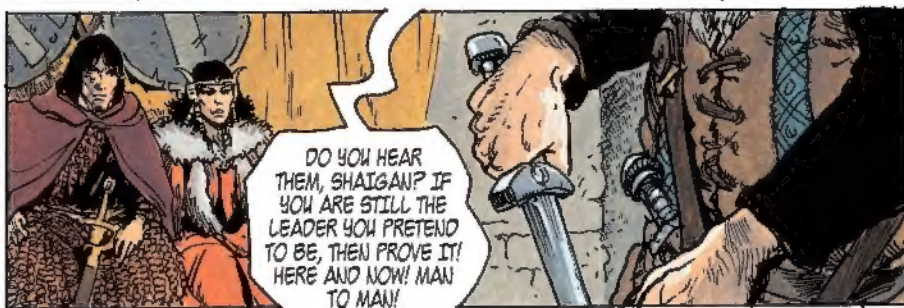


YOUR CAPTAINS HAVE GATHERED IN THE GREAT HALL. THEY AWAIT YOUR PLEASURE.





TEN DAYS SOUTH OF HERE LIES A RICH AND POORLY GUARDED LAND. IT WILL BE MORE ENJOYABLE TO SPEND WINTER PILLAGING THAT REALM THAN TO STAY HERE FREEZING OUR EARS OFF--AND THE REST.















WHERE'S  
THAT ISLAND  
OF YOURS?

HOW DO YOU  
EXPECT ME TO  
KNOW?

I CAN'T SEE 10 FEET  
AHEAD OF ME, AND I'M  
NOT EVEN SURE WE'RE  
GOING IN THE RIGHT  
DIRECTION.

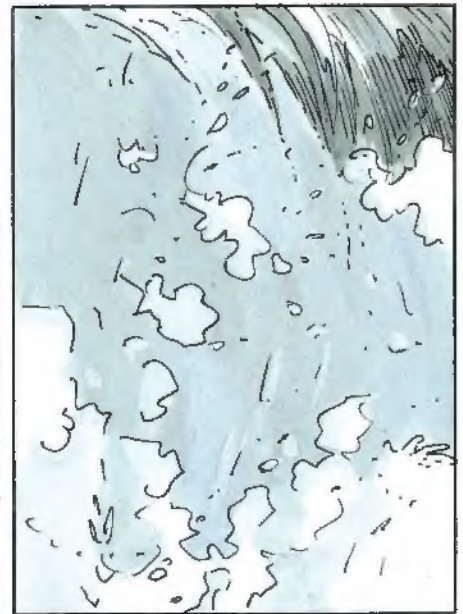


THERE!  
LOOK!

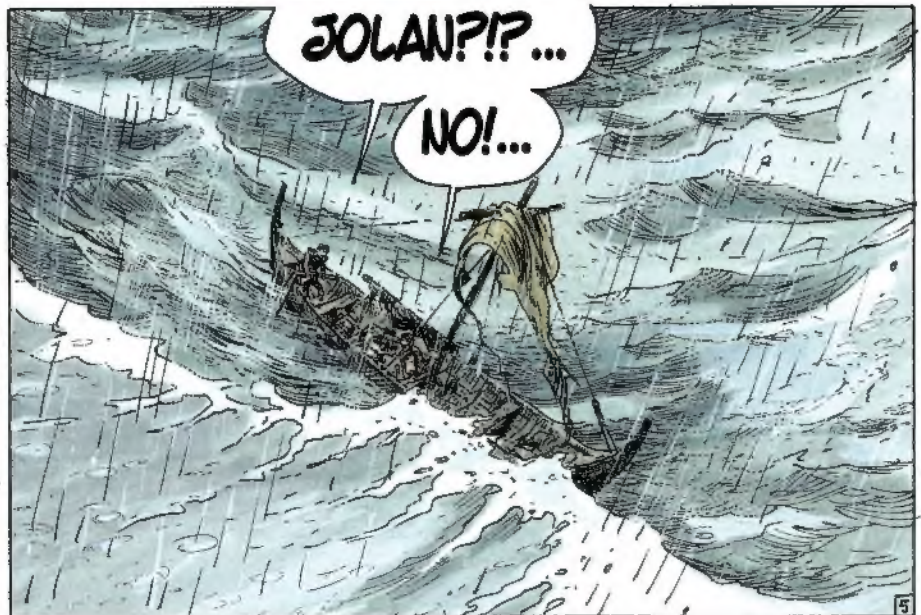


IS THAT YOUR  
ISLAND?

I HAVE  
NO I...  
**LOOK OUT!**



JOLAN?...



**JOLAN?!? ...**

**NO!...**

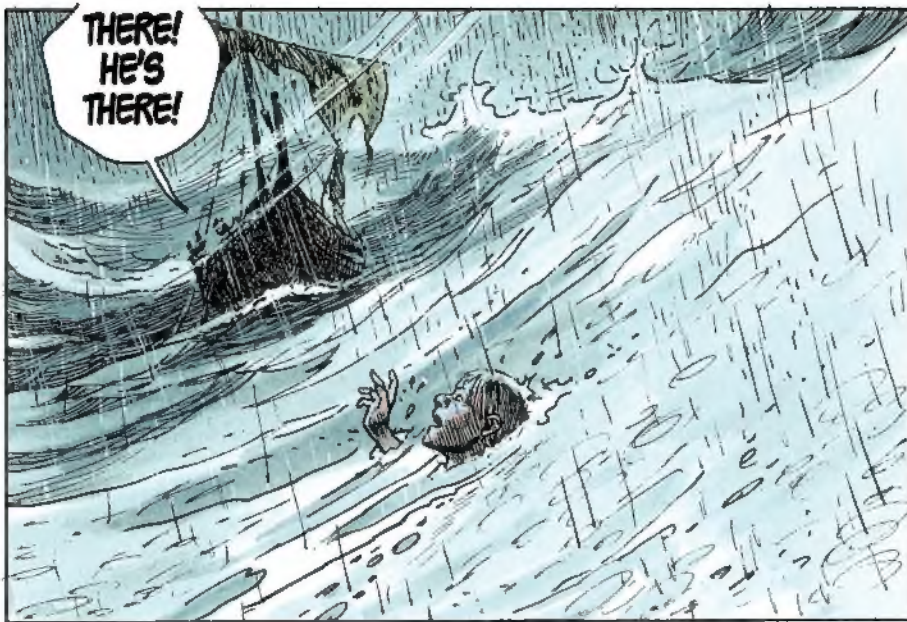


TURN AROUND, DAREK!  
WE HAVE TO TURN  
AROUND!

WE CAN'T!  
THE STORM'S  
PUSHING US  
FORWARD!



THERE!  
HE'S  
THERE!



IT'S A MIRACLE!  
HOW DID YOU MANAGE  
TO END UP IN FRONT  
OF THE BOAT?

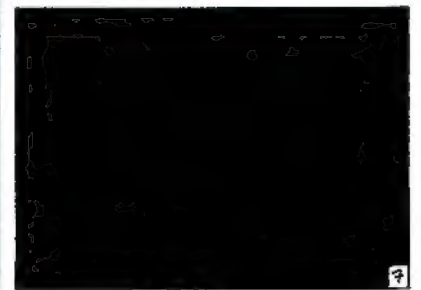
I... KHHH...  
KHHH... I DON'T  
KNOW...



REEFS AHEAD! COME  
HELP ME, QUICK!













WHO ARE YOU?  
HOW DO YOU KNOW  
MY NAME? WHERE  
ARE MY FRIENDS?



YOU CAN  
THANK YOUR DOG,  
JOLAN. IT WAS HE  
WHO BROUGHT YOU  
TO THE SHORE.

YOUR COMPANIONS WERE LESS  
LUCKY. I FOUND THEIR BODIES ON  
THE BEACH A FEW HOURS AGO, AMONG  
THE DEBRIS OF YOUR BOAT. I JUST  
FINISHED BURYING THEM.



OH, NO...  
DAREK!..  
LEHLA!..

IT'S... IT'S MY FAULT.  
I... I SHOULDN'T HAVE  
LET THEM COME  
WITH ME...

YOU AREN'T AT FAULT,  
JOLAN. IT WAS THEIR FATE  
TO DIE, AS IT WAS YOURS  
TO BE SAVED.



BUT... WHAT AM I GOING  
TO DO NOW? MY FRIENDS ARE  
DEAD, MY BOAT DESTROYED...  
HOW AM I TO FIND THORGAL,  
AARICIA AND WOLFCUB?

I KNOW WHAT  
WORRIES YOU.  
AND I SHOULD  
BE ABLE TO  
HELP YOU.

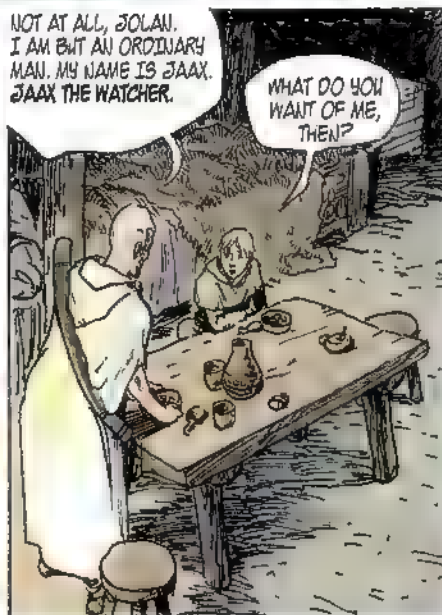


BEFORE THAT, THOUGH, I NEED YOUR  
HELP. COME. I'VE PREPARED SOME  
FOOD FOR YOU. YOU MUST BE  
STARVING.



WILL YOU EVER TELL ME  
WHO YOU ARE? YOU SEEM  
TO KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT  
ME. ARE YOU SOME SORT  
OF SORCERER?

NOT AT ALL, JOLAN.  
I AM BUT AN ORDINARY  
MAN. MY NAME IS JAAX.  
JAAX THE WATCHER.

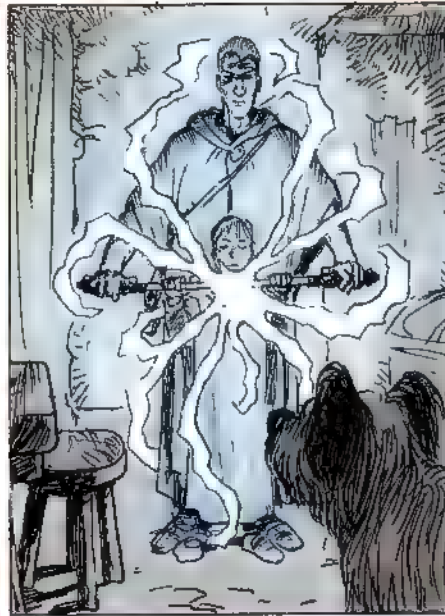
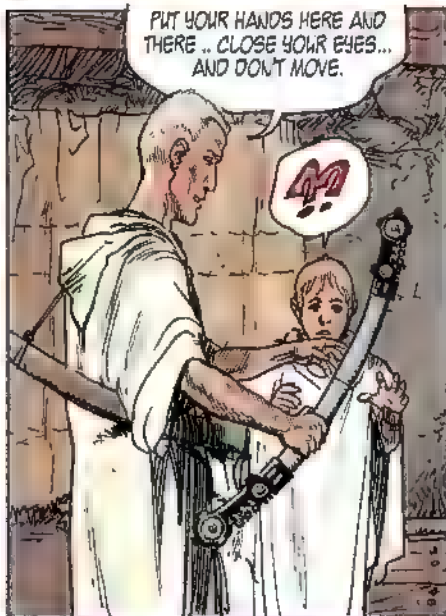
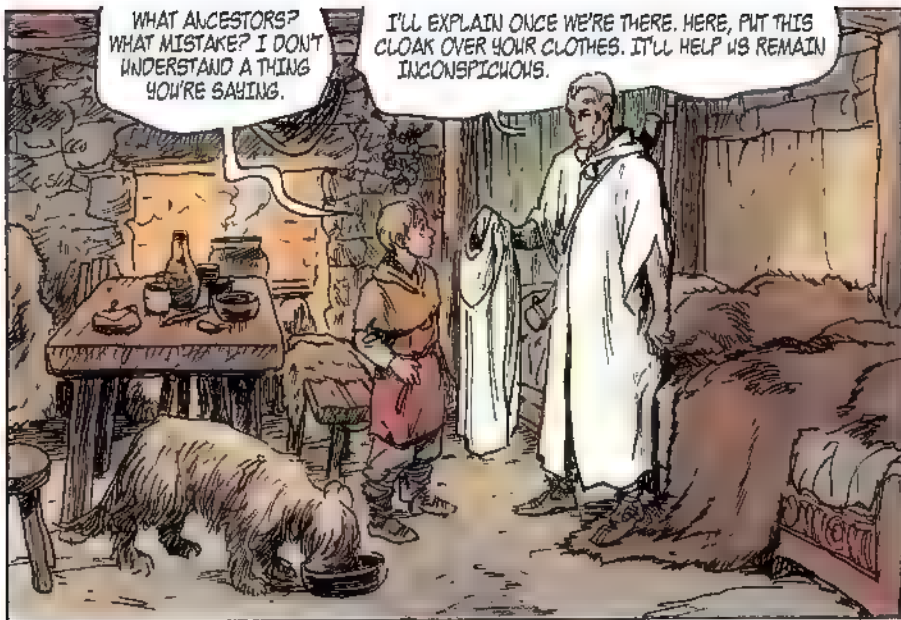


WHAT DO YOU  
WANT OF ME,  
THEN?

THAT YOU HELP ME REPAIR A GRAVE  
MISTAKE MADE BY YOUR  
ANCESTORS.







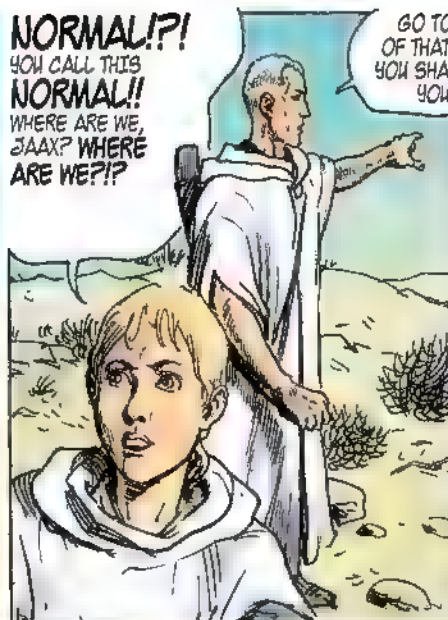


MY HEART IS  
POUNDRING... MY  
HEAD IS BUZZING...  
IT'S LIKE MY VERY  
BLOOD IS  
BOILING...

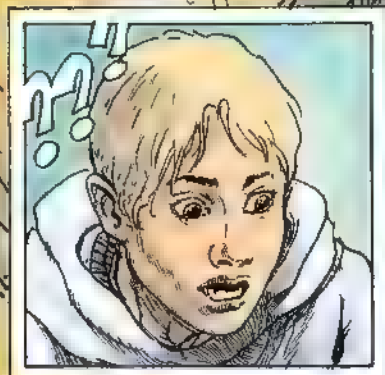
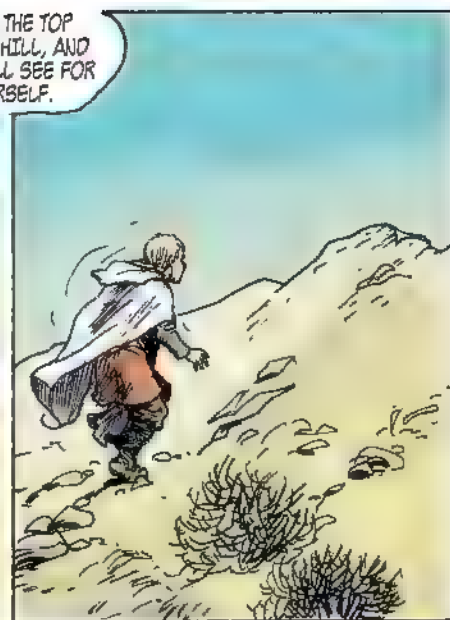


DON'T WORRY,  
THAT'S NORMAL. IT'S  
BECAUSE YOU'RE  
NOT USED TO IT.

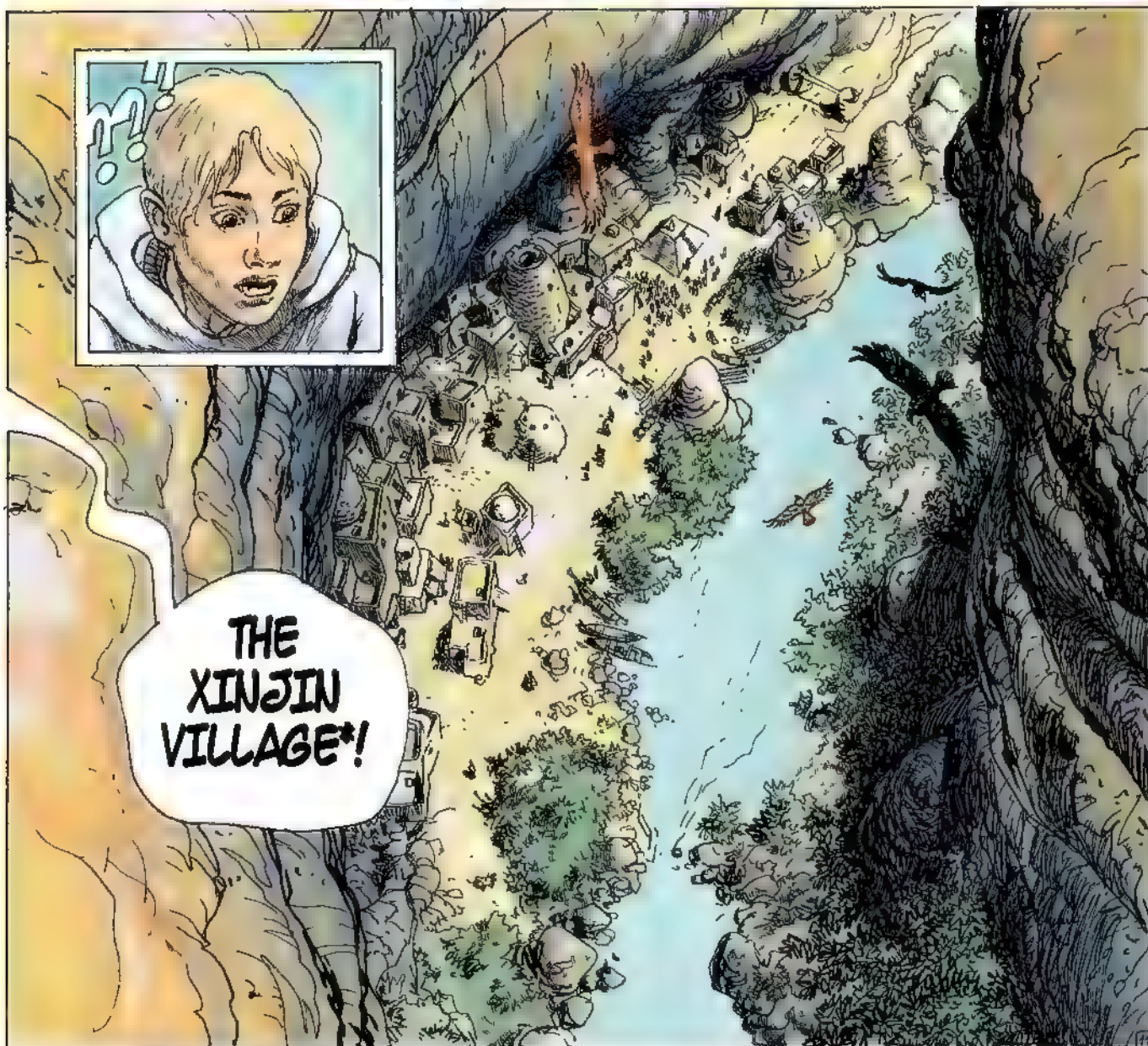
**NORMAL!?!**  
YOU CALL THIS  
**NORMAL!!**  
WHERE ARE WE,  
JAAX? WHERE  
ARE WE?!



GO TO THE TOP  
OF THAT HILL, AND  
YOU SHALL SEE FOR  
YOURSELF.



**THE  
XINJIN  
VILLAGE\*!**



\*SEE THE LAND OF QA.





THIS... THIS IS  
INCREIBLE!  
WHAT  
MIRACLE...?

SHHH...  
LATER. LET'S  
SLIP IN AMONG  
THAT CROWD  
UNNOTICED.



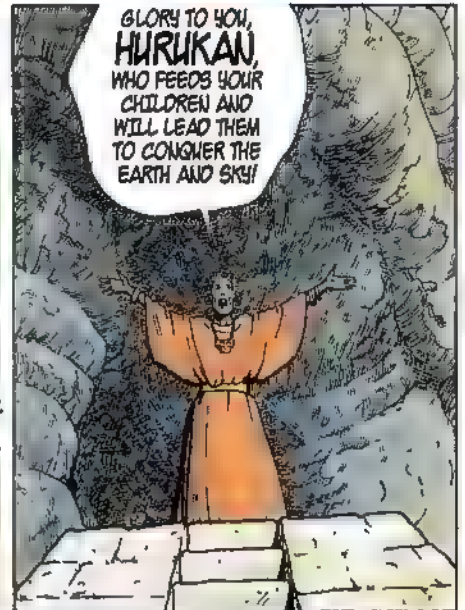
WHAT ARE  
THEY DOING?

IT'S A  
RELIGIOUS  
CEREMONY.  
I BROUGHT  
YOU HERE TO  
WITNESS IT.



I CAN'T BELIEVE  
WE'RE HERE. BUT, IF  
IT'S TRUE, COULD I SEE  
VARIAY AND TREE  
FOOT AGAIN?

YOUR FRIENDS ARE LONG  
DEAD. WE'RE OVER 30 YEARS  
AFTER THE TIME YOU LEFT  
THEM. AND NOW, BE QUIET,  
OR WE'LL BE IN TROUBLE



GLORY TO YOU,  
**HURUKAN**,  
WHO FEEDS YOUR  
CHILDREN AND  
WILL LEAD THEM  
TO CONQUER THE  
EARTH AND SKY!



OVER...?

BE QUIET,  
I TELL YOU...  
AND LISTEN!

GLORY TO YOU,  
GOD OF LIGHT  
AND SUN...



HURUKAN??  
BUT, THAT'S ME!

I KNOW WILL  
YOU FINALLY  
BE QUIET?  
WAIT FOR THE  
REST.

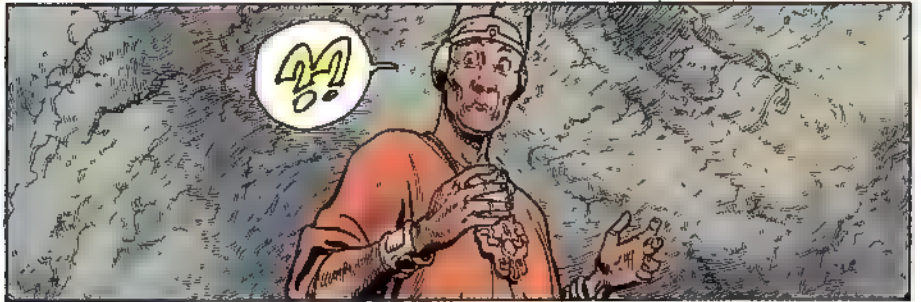


I, TLALAC, HIGH PRIEST  
OF THE XINJIN, PLACE UPON  
MY BROW, IN YOUR NAME,  
THE SYMBOL OF YOUR  
POWER...





... YOUR HOLY CROWN!



**SPIES! THEY'RE SPIES!  
GRAB THEM!  
KILL THEM!**

I TOLD YOU TO  
BE QUIET... QUICK,  
LET'S GO!



NOT THAT WAY!  
THAT'S A DEAD  
END!

IT DOESN'T  
MATTER...



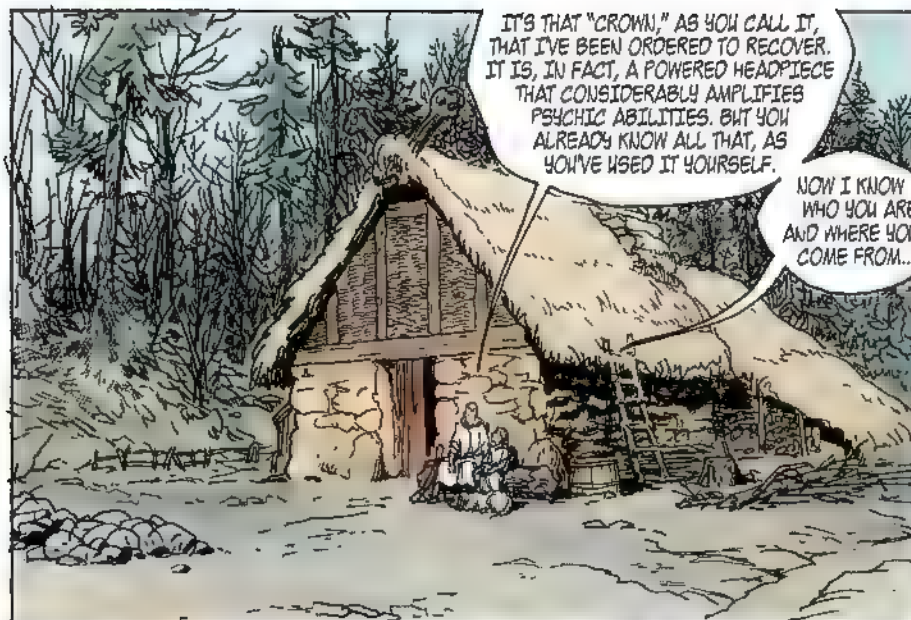
PLACE YOUR HANDS  
AS I SHOWED YOU  
AND CLOSE YOUR  
EYES...

THEY'RE  
OVER THERE!

WE'VE  
GOT THEM!







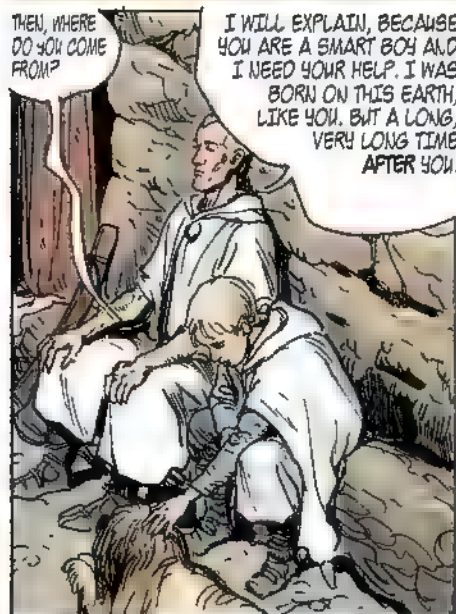
IT'S THAT "CROWN," AS YOU CALL IT, THAT I'VE BEEN ORDERED TO RECOVER. IT IS, IN FACT, A POWERED HEADPIECE THAT CONSIDERABLY AMPLIFIES PSYCHIC ABILITIES. BUT YOU ALREADY KNOW ALL THAT, AS YOU'VE USED IT YOURSELF.

NOW I KNOW WHO YOU ARE AND WHERE YOU COME FROM...



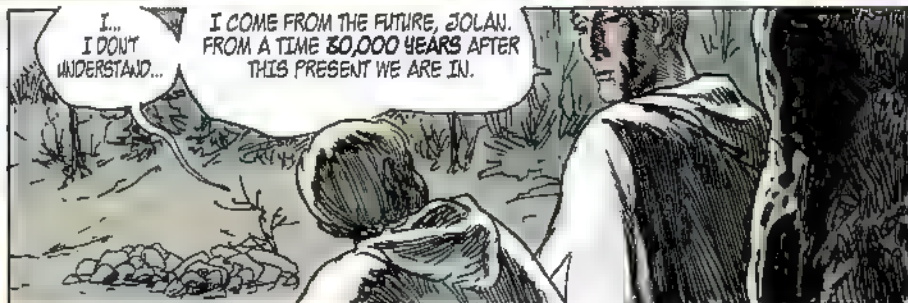
YOU COME FROM THE STARS. LIKE TANATLOC. LIKE THORGAL'S PARENTS.

NO, JOLAN. THE PLANET FROM WHICH THOSE PEOPLE CAME CEASED TO EXIST AFTER IT CONSUMED ITS LAST RESOURCES. THROUGH YOUR FATHER, YOU AND YOUR SISTER ARE THE LAST DESCENDANTS OF THOSE YOU CALL THE PEOPLE OF THE STARS.



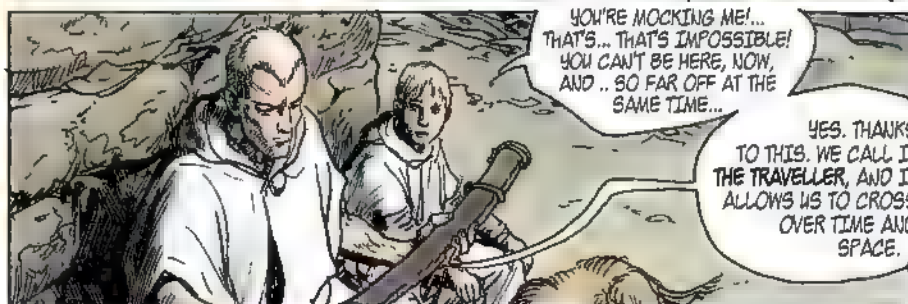
THEN, WHERE DO YOU COME FROM?

I WILL EXPLAIN, BECAUSE YOU ARE A SMART BOY AND I NEED YOUR HELP. I WAS BORN ON THIS EARTH, LIKE YOU. BUT A LONG, VERY LONG TIME AFTER YOU.



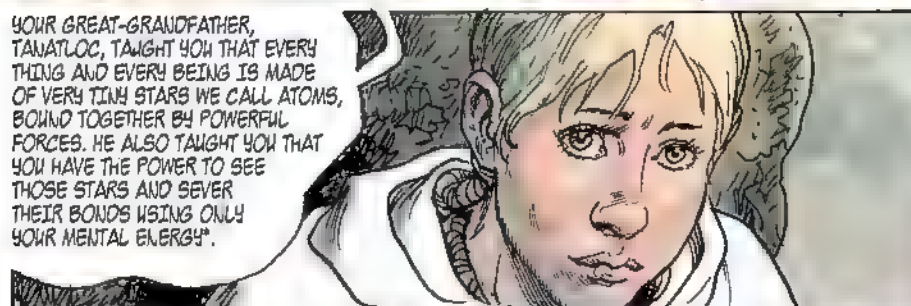
I... I DON'T UNDERSTAND...

I COME FROM THE FUTURE, JOLAN. FROM A TIME 30,000 YEARS AFTER THIS PRESENT WE ARE IN.

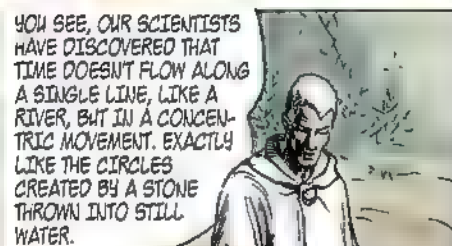


YOU'RE MOCKING ME!... THAT'S... THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! YOU CAN'T BE HERE, NOW, AND .. SO FAR OFF AT THE SAME TIME...

YES. THANKS TO THIS. WE CALL IT THE TRAVELLER, AND IT ALLOWS US TO CROSS OVER TIME AND SPACE.



YOUR GREAT-GRANDFATHER, TANATLOC, TAUGHT YOU THAT EVERY THING AND EVERY BEING IS MADE OF VERY TINY STARS WE CALL ATOMS, BOUND TOGETHER BY POWERFUL FORCES. HE ALSO TAUGHT YOU THAT YOU HAVE THE POWER TO SEE THOSE STARS AND SEVER THEIR BONDS USING ONLY YOUR MENTAL ENERGY\*.

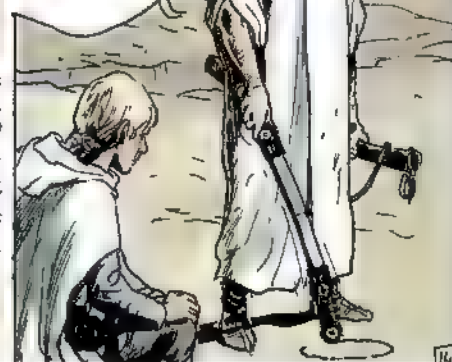


YOU SEE, OUR SCIENTISTS HAVE DISCOVERED THAT TIME DOESN'T FLOW ALONG A SINGLE LINE, LIKE A RIVER, BUT IN A CONCENTRIC MOVEMENT. EXACTLY LIKE THE CIRCLES CREATED BY A STONE THROWN INTO STILL WATER.



THAT'S RIGHT.

WELL, THIS TRAVELLER DOES THE SAME THING. IT DEMATERIALIZES EVERYTHING THAT TOUCHES IT AND REMATERIALIZES IT IMMEDIATELY, BUT IN A DIFFERENT TIME OR PLACE, BY PROPELLING THE ATOMS THAT MAKE IT UP ALONG A TUNNEL OF A PARTICULAR TYPE OF ENERGY.



\*SEE THE LAND OF QA.



EACH POINT OF A CIRCLE REPRESENTS THE SAME SECOND IN EVERY PLACE IN THE UNIVERSE. BY MOVING ALONG THE CIRCLE, IT IS POSSIBLE TO CHANGE LOCATION WITHOUT CHANGING TIME. INSTANTANEOUS TRAVEL THROUGH SPACE WAS THE FIRST STEP.



NEXT, OUR RESEARCHERS FOUND A WAY TO JUMP FROM CIRCLE TO CIRCLE—IN OTHER WORDS, TO TRAVEL THROUGH TIME. EITHER LIKE THIS, WITHOUT PHYSICALLY MOVING...



... OR LIKE THIS, BY CHANGING BOTH TIME AND PLACE. THAT'S WHAT WE DID BY GOING TO THE XINJIN VILLAGE 30 YEARS AFTER YOU WERE THERE.

ALL THAT WITH THAT... THAT STICK THING?



THAT STICK THING, AS YOU SAY, IS THE PRODUCT OF THOUSANDS OF YEARS OF RESEARCH, JOLAN. THERE WERE ALREADY TIME MACHINES BEFORE MY TIME, BUT THEY WERE HORRIBLY COMPLEX. WITH THIS, USING SIMPLE CONTROLS, I CAN GO EXACTLY WHERE AND WHEN I WANT, TO THE YARD AND THE SECOND. AS LONG AS I KNOW THE COORDINATES, OF COURSE.



THERE. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

I DON'T UNDERSTAND A THING, BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER. WHY DO YOU WANT TO TAKE OGOTAI'S CROWN?



BECAUSE IT REPRESENTS AN ANOMALY IN HISTORY. WE KNOW THAT IT WAS YOUR GRANDFATHER VARTH WHO BROUGHT IT TO THE LAND OF QA, WHERE HE TOOK THE NAME OGOTAI\*. AND, 25 YEARS LATER, A XINJIN FARMER GAVE IT TO TLALAC, WHO USES IT TO ENSLAVE HIS PEOPLE. WHAT WE DON'T KNOW IS WHERE AND HOW THAT FARMER FOUND IT.

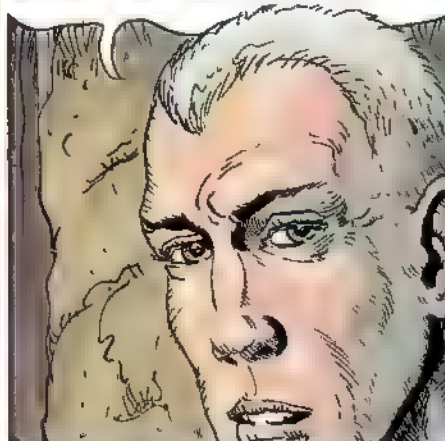


THAT HEADPIECE DOESN'T BELONG IN THIS TIME, JOLAN. UNLESS WE INTERVENE, TLALAC WILL ACCOMPLISH THINGS HE NORMALLY WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO, AND THE HISTORY OF MEN WILL BE WARPED.

WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK AND STEAL IT FROM HIM?



BECAUSE WE ARE FORBIDDEN FROM PHYSICALLY INTERVENING. THERE'D BE TOO MUCH RISK OF HURTING OR KILLING SOMEONE, WHICH COULD CAUSE WHAT WE CALL A TEMPORAL PARADOX. I MUST TAKE THAT HELMET WITHOUT ANYBODY NOTICING ANYTHING. THE ONLY WAY TO DO THAT IS TO GET IT FROM WHERE YOU LOST IT.



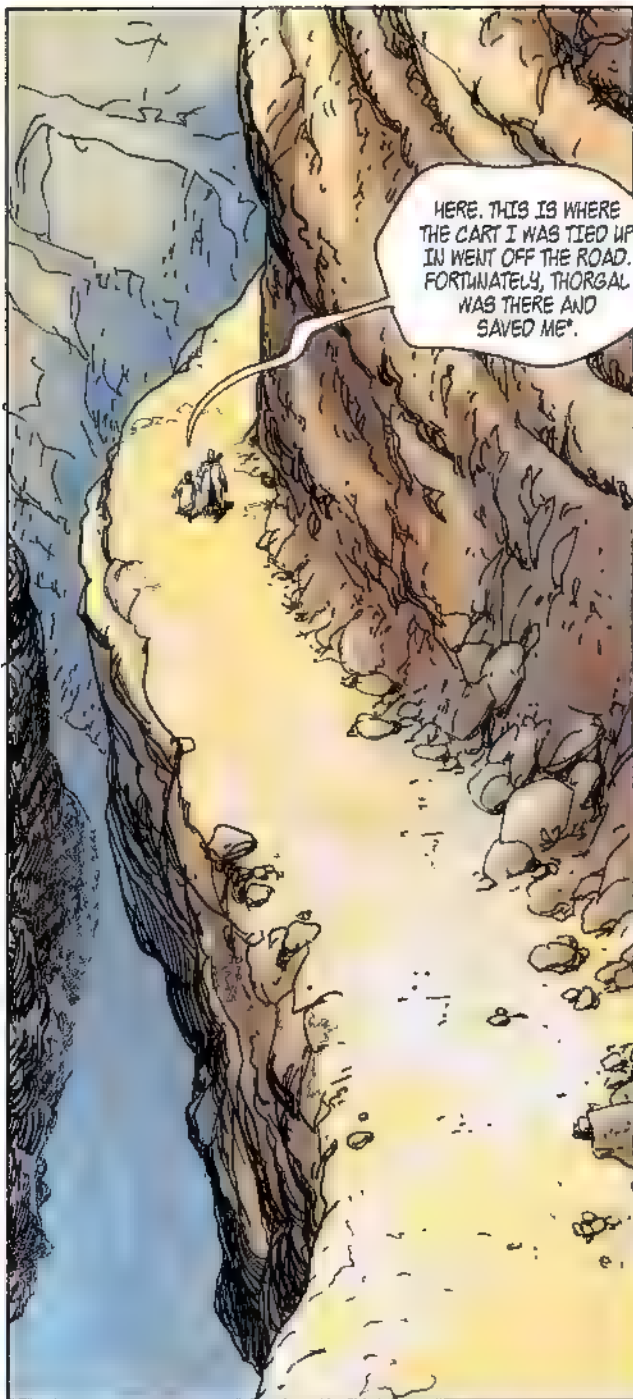
VERY WELL, I'LL HELP YOU. BUT ONLY IF YOU HELP ME FIND MY PARENTS AND SISTER AFTERWARDS.

I PROMISE, JOLAN. NOW, WE'RE GOING TO GO BACK TO THE LAND OF THE XINJINS, BUT AT THE TIME YOU LEFT THEIR VILLAGE.



\*SEE THE LAND OF QA AND LATER VOLUMES.

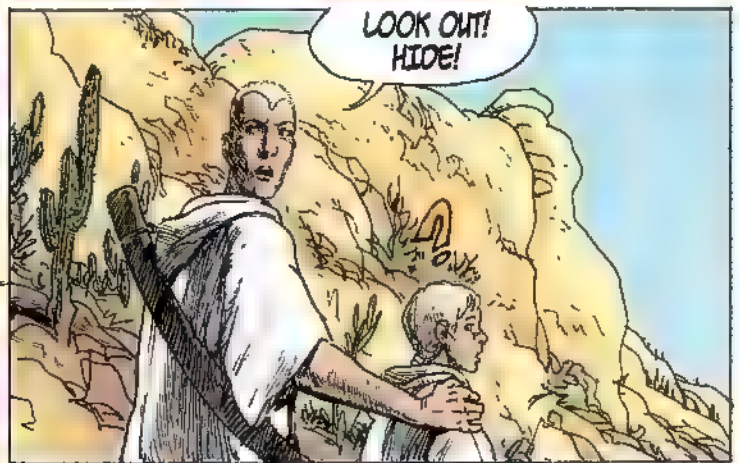
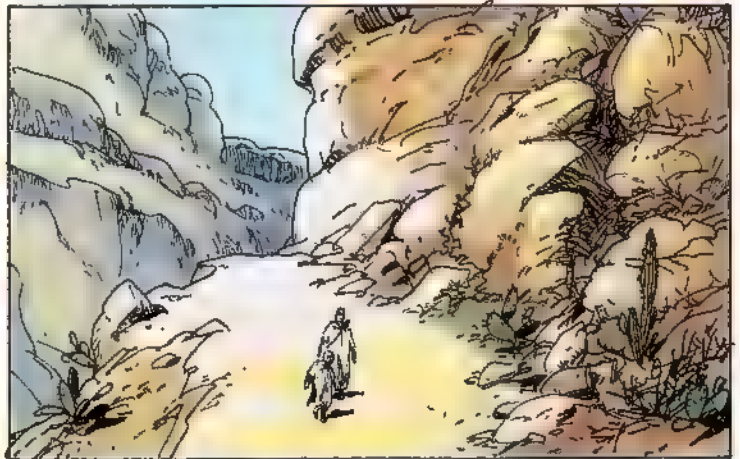
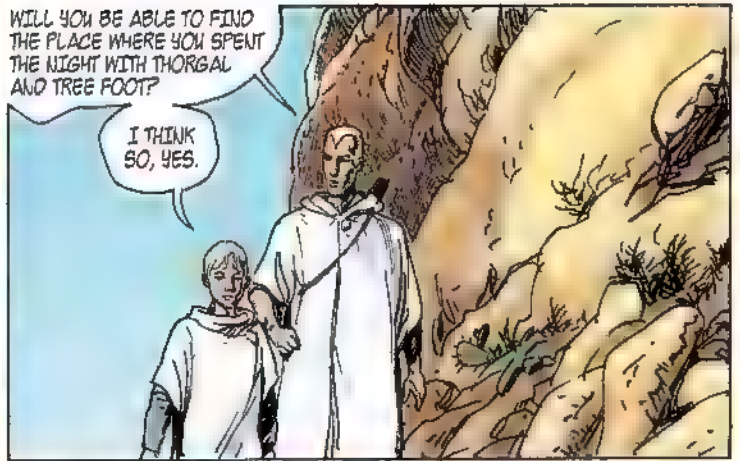




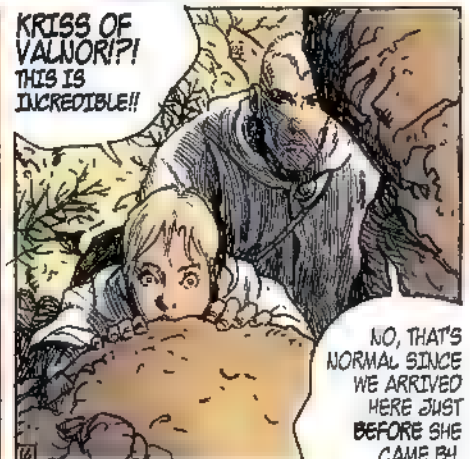
HERE. THIS IS WHERE THE CART I WAS TIED UP IN WENT OFF THE ROAD. FORTUNATELY, THORGAL WAS THERE AND SAVED ME\*.

WILL YOU BE ABLE TO FIND THE PLACE WHERE YOU SPENT THE NIGHT WITH THORGAL AND TREE FOOT?

I THINK SO, YES.



LOOK OUT!  
HIDE!

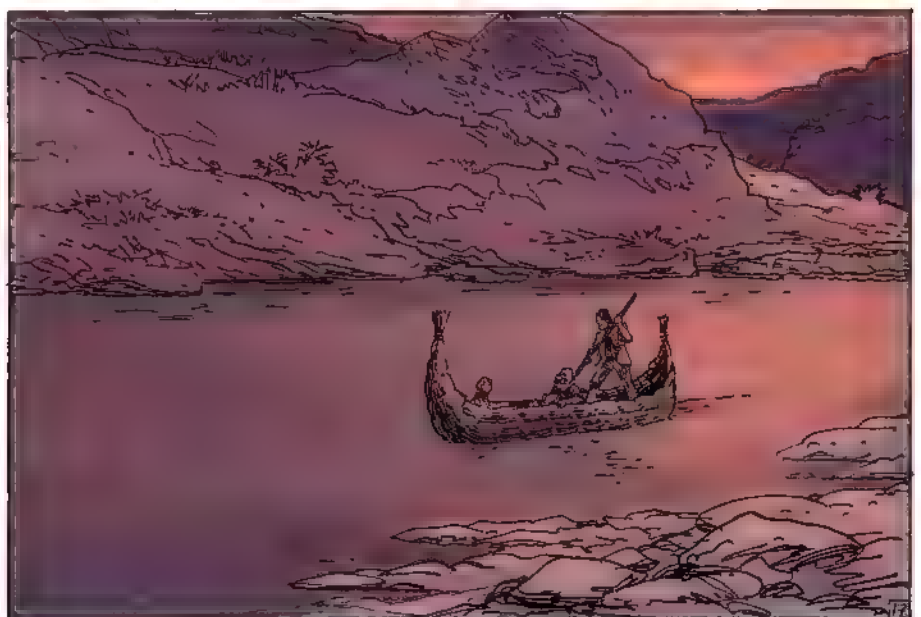
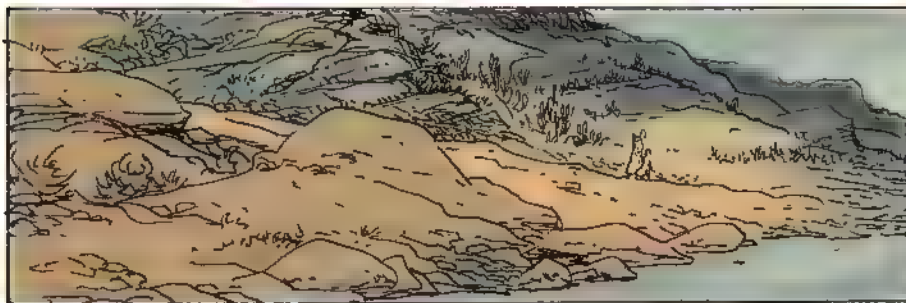
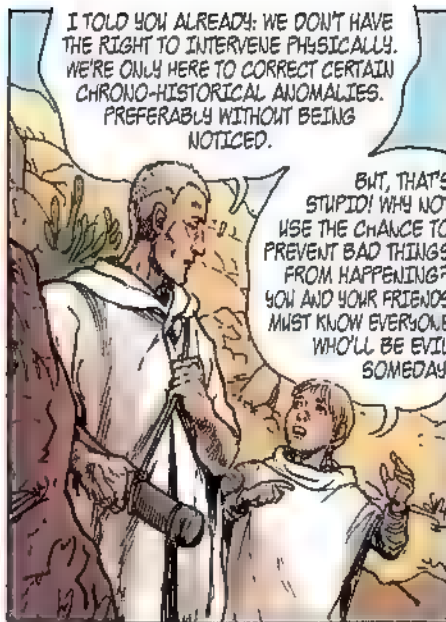


KRISS OF VALNORI?!  
THIS IS INCREDIBLE!!

NO, THAT'S NORMAL SINCE WE ARRIVED HERE JUST BEFORE SHE CAME BY.

\*SEE CITY OF THE LOST GOD.









YOU KNOW, IT'S UEBAC WHO... HE MADE ME THINK THAT YOU WERE GONE... AND THEN, I HEARD HIM... WITH MALOC... THEY WANTED TO KILL YOU TO... TO...



F... FORGIVE ME, THORGAL... I WAS SO MEAN... SO STUPID... I WANT TO GO HOME WITH YOU... NOW...

WE'LL LEAVE, JOLAN. AND WE'LL FORGET HURUKAN FOREVER.

I... I PROMISE YOU THAT



OH! OGOTAI'S CROWN!



IT WAS HIDDEN INSIDE THE MAGIC HEADPIECE, BUT KRISS OF VALVOR KEPT IT. IT'S SOMETHING INVENTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STARS TO INCREASE THE FORCE THEY HAD IN THEIR HEAD.



YOU KNOW, I HAVE THAT FORCE TOO. BUT, AS I'M STILL TOO YOUNG TO KNOW HOW TO USE IT, WITH THIS CROWN I CAN...

WE UNDERSTAND, JOLAN. GIVE IT TO ME.



THORGAL! NO, DON'T...



WERE YOU GOING TO SAY SOMETHING?

NO, THORGAL.

GOOD. LET'S SLEEP NOW.

COME AWAY NOW, QUIETLY. WE'LL COME BACK TOMORROW AFTER THEY'VE LEFT.

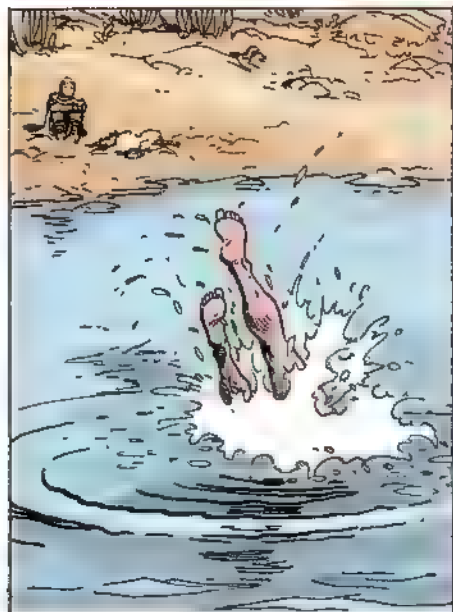


I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT I SAW... WHEN I WAS HERE WITH THORGAL FOUR YEARS AGO, WAS I ALREADY HERE? I MEAN, THE ME FROM NOW?

OF COURSE YOU WERE, SINCE IT'S FOUR YEARS AGO AND YOU'RE HERE.

IT'S JUST TOO COMPLICATED.

I KNOW. EVEN I GET LOST SOMETIMES.



I'VE GOT IT!

THEN... THE FARMER WILL NEVER FIND THE CROWN IN THE RIVER, AND HE WON'T BE ABLE TO GIVE IT TO THAT TLALAC?

NO. THIS, TLALAC WILL NEVER HAVE THE IDEA OF BECOMING HIGH PRIEST OF HURKAN, AND THE CEREMONY YOU SAW WILL NEVER HAVE EXISTED, EXCEPT IN YOUR MEMORY AND MINE.

SO, BY TAKING THIS HEADPIECE, YOU'VE CHANGED THE FUTURE?

MORE ACCURATELY, THE FUTURE WILL RETURN TO WHAT IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN. WHICH WAS EXACTLY THE GOAL OF MY MISSION.

READY?







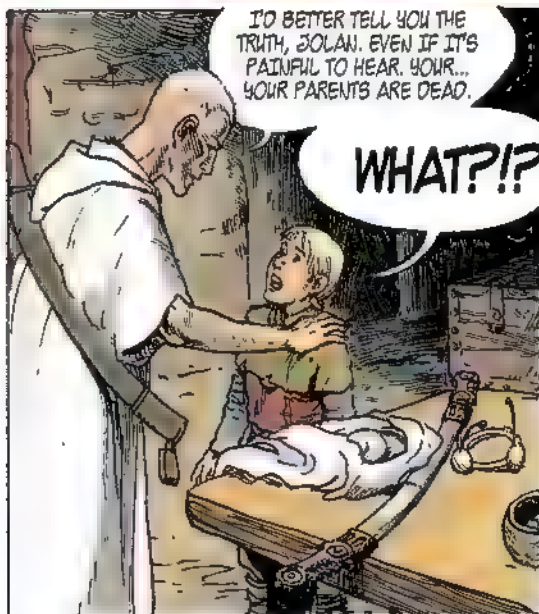
WELL, MY MISSION IS FULFILLED. I WILL GO BACK TO MY TIME NOW.

WAIT... YOU'D PROMISED YOU'D HELP ME...



I KNOW, BUT... I LIED TO YOU, JOLAN. I... IT WOULD BE POINTLESS...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, POINTLESS? POINTLESS HOW? I NEED YOUR HELP.



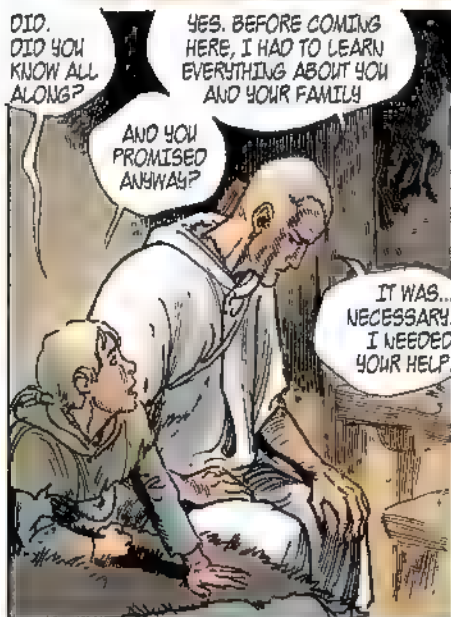
I'D BETTER TELL YOU THE TRUTH, JOLAN. EVEN IF IT'S PAINFUL TO HEAR. YOUR... YOUR PARENTS ARE DEAD.

WHAT?!

THORGAL, WHO'D LOST HIS MEMORY AND THOUGHT HE WAS SHAGAN THE MERCILESS, WAS KILLED BY HIS OWN MEN. KRISS OF VALNOR CHOSE TO KILL HERSELF RATHER THAN FALL INTO THEIR HANDS. AS FOR AARICIA AND WOLFCUB, THEY WERE MASSACRED AS THEY TRIED TO ESCAPE WITH OTHER SLAVES.



I'M SORRY I HAD TO TELL YOU ALL THIS SO BRUTALLY, JOLAN. BUT IT'S BETTER YOU DON'T ENTERTAIN ANY FALSE HOPES.



DID YOU KNOW ALL ALONG?

YES. BEFORE COMING HERE, I HAD TO LEARN EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.

AND YOU PROMISED ANYWAY?

IT WAS... NECESSARY. I NEEDED YOUR HELP.



IF YOU ALSO KNOW MY FUTURE, THEN AT LEAST TELL ME WHAT WILL BECOME OF ME...

YOU WILL REMAIN ON YOUR ISLAND, JOLAN. ALONE WITH MUFF. SUCH IS YOUR DESTINY. I'M SORRY. I TOLD YOU WHO I AM AND WHERE I COME FROM BECAUSE I KNEW YOU'D NEVER TELL ANYONE.



NO!



NO! I DON'T WANT THIS! I DON'T WANT THORGAL AND AARICIA TO BE DEAD! I DON'T WANT TO STAY ALL ALONE ON THIS ISLAND!

I UNDERSTAND. BUT, WHAT CAN YOU DO? UNFORTUNATELY, YOU'RE NOT THE FIRST LITTLE BOY WHOSE PARENTS DIED TOO EARLY.

EXCEPT WE CAN DO SOMETHING!... WITH YOUR TRAVELLER, WE CAN GO TO THORGAL BEFORE HE'S KILLED AND WARN HIM.

YOU KNOW THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE, JOLAN. I'M FORBIDDEN TO INTERFERE WITH THE LIFE OR DEATH OF A PERSON IN ANY OTHER TIME PERIOD THAN MINE. I HAVE TO OBEY THE WATCHERS' OATH.

JOLAN!  
COME BACK!

JOLAN!

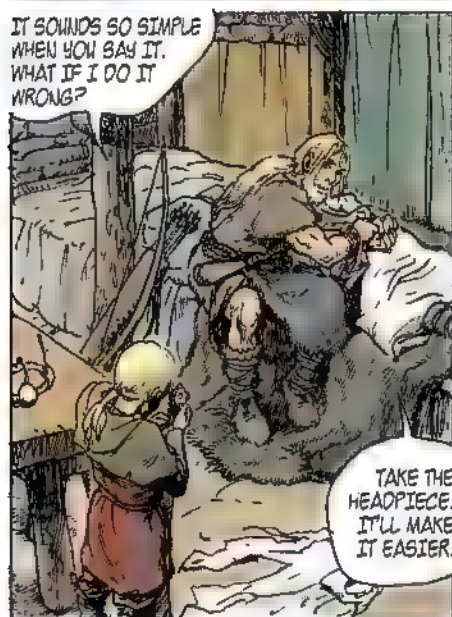
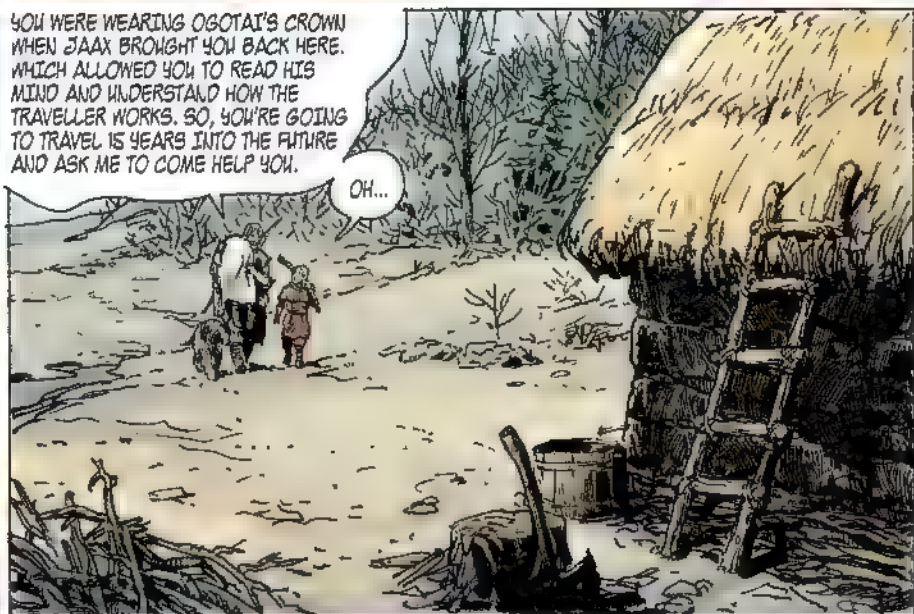
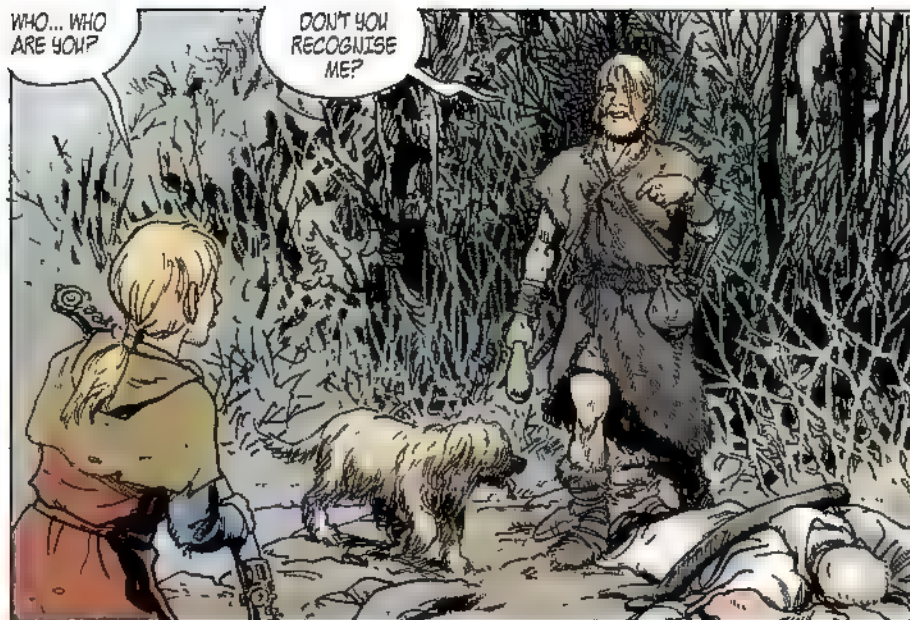
IF... IF YOU REFUSE TO HELP ME, I'LL THROW YOUR TRAVELLER TO THE BOTTOM OF A PIT, AND YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO GO HOME...

DON'T BE A FOOL, MY BOY... WE'RE ALONE ON THIS ISLAND. JUST YOU AND ME. YOU DON'T HAVE A CHANCE OF ESCA...

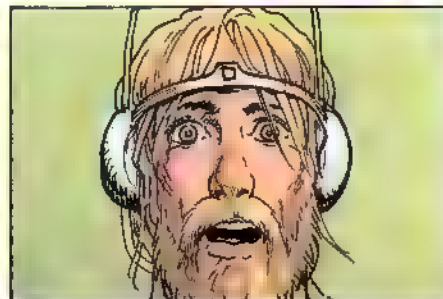
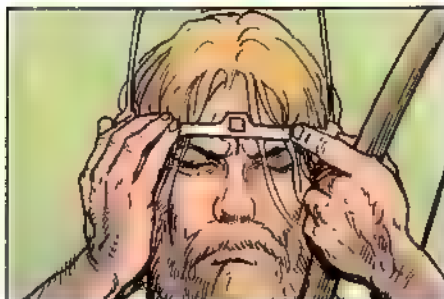
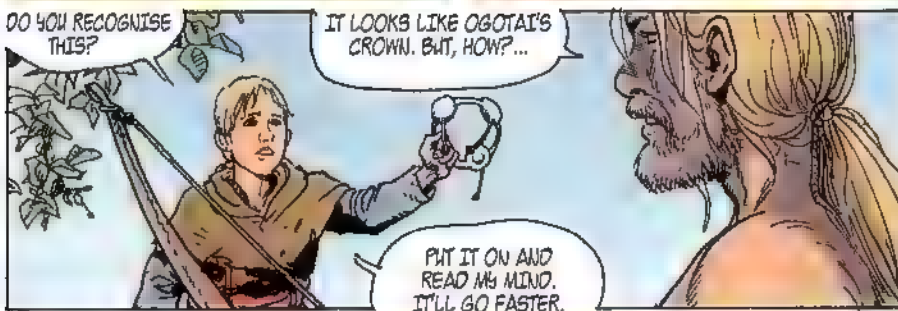
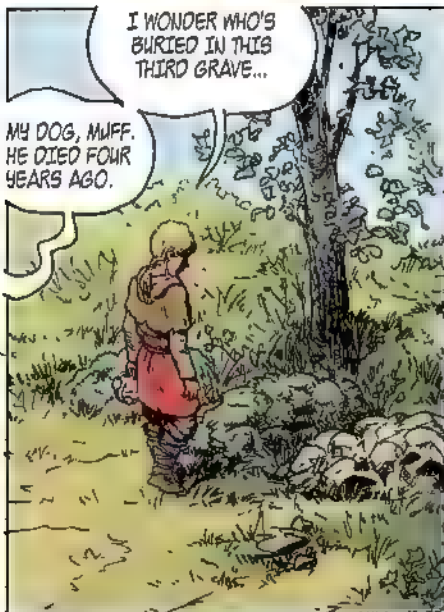
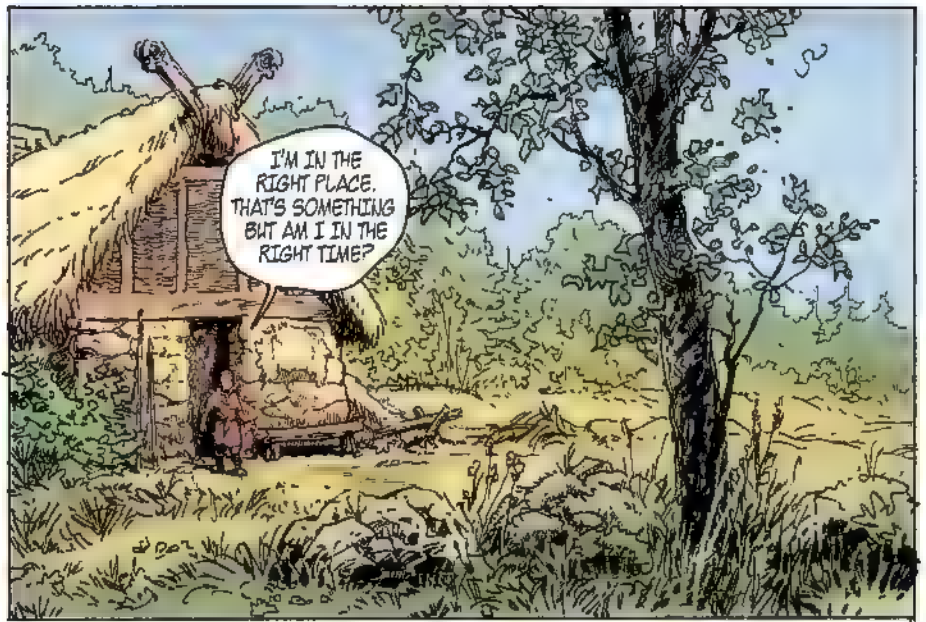
GRRR

OW!  
ooo





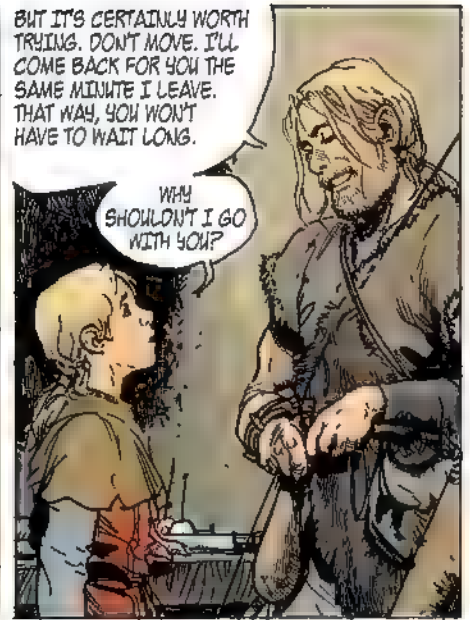








I'VE LIVED ALONE ON THIS ISLAND FOR 15 YEARS, AND MY GREATEST DESIRE IS THAT THOSE 15 YEARS NEVER HAPPENED. IF WHAT YOU TOLD ME IS TRUE AND YOUR PLAN SUCCEEDS, I'LL HAVE MY WISH. I MUST ADMIT I HAVE A HARD TIME BELIEVING IT...



BUT IT'S CERTAINLY WORTH TRYING. DON'T MOVE. I'LL COME BACK FOR YOU THE SAME MINUTE I LEAVE. THAT WAY, YOU WON'T HAVE TO WAIT LONG.

WHY SHOULDN'T I GO WITH YOU?



TOO DANGEROUS, LITTLE BROTHER. IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO YOU, I WOULD CEASE TO EXIST, AND WE COULDN'T ATTEMPT WHAT WE'RE ABOUT TO.

WHAT IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO YOU?



IF I'M NOT BACK IN A MINUTE, THEN IT'LL MEAN I'VE FAILED. YOU'LL BE FORCED TO RELIVE THE LONG YEARS OF SOLITUDE I ALREADY LIVED HERE. AS YOU CAN SEE, WE HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE.

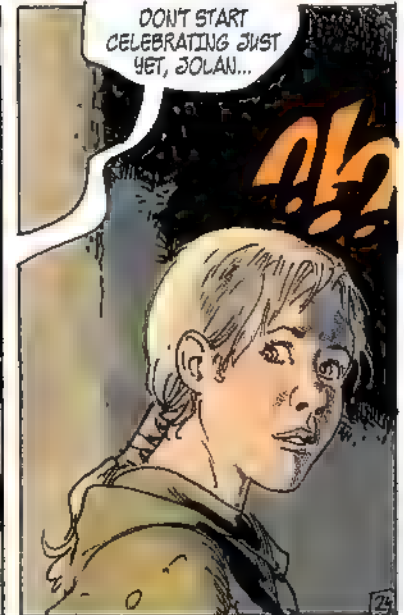


THEN, GOOD LUCK, "BIG BROTHER." I'M COUNTING ON YOU

AND RIGHTLY SO. IT'S ALWAYS BETTER TO COUNT ON NOBODY BUT YOURSELF. SEE YOU VERY SOON...



IN A MINUTE, I'LL KNOW IF I... IF WE SUCCEEDED. IT'S FANTASTIC!



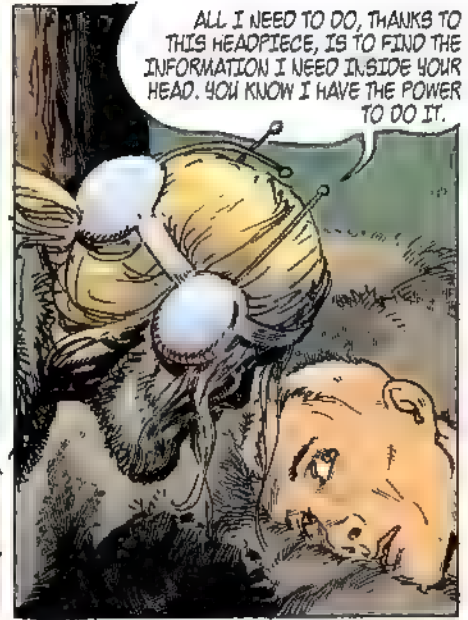
DON'T START CELEBRATING JUST YET, JOLAN...





I UNDERESTIMATED YOUR INTELLIGENCE, JOLAN. BUT DON'T COUNT ON ME TO HELP YOU WITH YOUR PLAN. WE'RE TRAINED TO WITHSTAND PAIN.

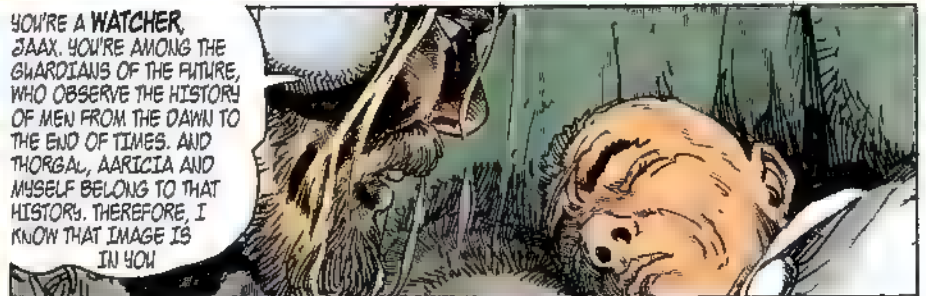
WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT TORTURING YOU, JAAX?



ALL I NEED TO DO, THANKS TO THIS HEADPIECE, IS TO FIND THE INFORMATION I NEED INSIDE YOUR HEAD. YOU KNOW I HAVE THE POWER TO DO IT.



NO POINT IN CLOSING YOUR EYES, JAAX. I CAN READ THOUSANDS OF IMAGES IN YOU. THOUSANDS OF THOUSANDS OF IMAGES THAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND, OF TIMES I DON'T KNOW. BUT, HIDDEN AMONG ALL THOSE IMAGES IS THE ONE I WANT TO FIND: THE WAY AND PLACE THAT THORGAL DIED.



YOU'RE A WATCHER, JAAX. YOU'RE AMONG THE GUARDIANS OF THE FUTURE, WHO OBSERVE THE HISTORY OF MEN FROM THE DAWN TO THE END OF TIMES. AND THORGAL, AARICIA AND MYSELF BELONG TO THAT HISTORY. THEREFORE, I KNOW THAT IMAGE IS IN YOU



IT'S IN YOU AND I WILL FIND IT!

I WILL FIND IT!

I WILL FIND IT!

I FOUND IT!



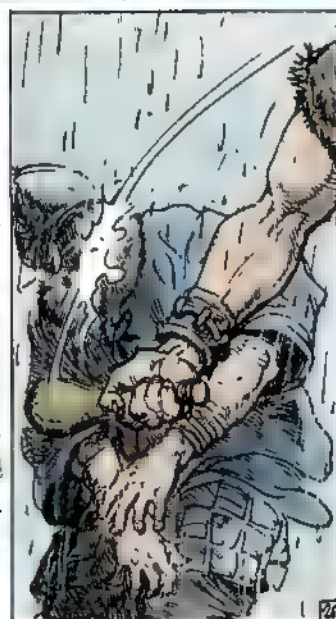
I KNOW WHAT YOU KNOW, JAAX. I KNOW FOR WHAT TIME AND PLACE I MUST SET THE TRAVELLER.

YOU WON'T SUCCEED, JOLAN. ANOTHER WATCHER WILL INEVITABLY COME TO FREE ME, AND WE WILL STOP YOU.

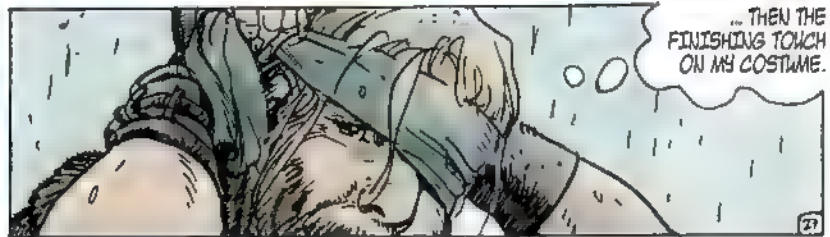
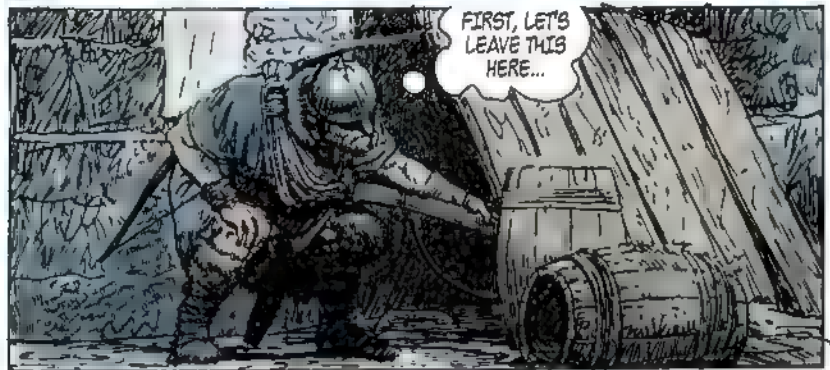


REMEMBER, JAAX: YOU DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO INTERVENE PHYSICALLY. YOU CAN NEITHER SAVE NOR FIGHT A BEING FROM A DIFFERENT TIME THAN YOURS. BUT I CAN!

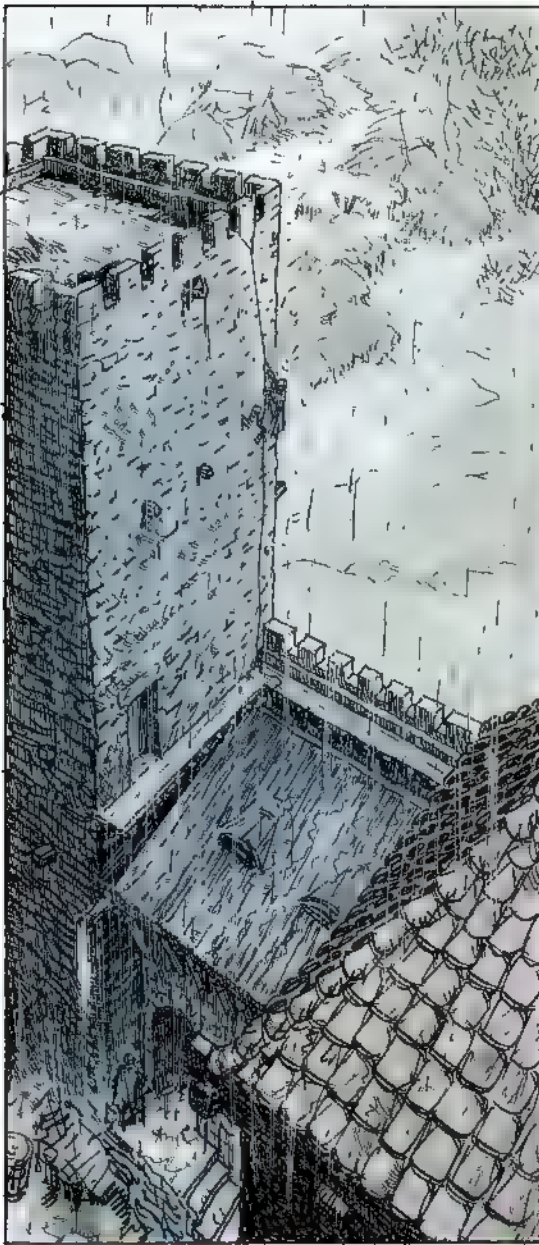












YOU WON'T LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO SEE THE END OF THAT HOUR, SHAGAN...









YOU SAVED MY LIFE, MY BOY. THAT CALLS FOR A REWARD. WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE?

I HAVEN'T THOUGHT ABOUT IT YET, LORD SHAIGAN.

SAVED YOUR LIFE... THAT'S A BIG WORD. SHAIGAN DIDN'T NEED YOU TO GET RID OF THOSE TWO DIMWITS.

ARE YOU SO SURE? SHAIGAN WOULD HAVE BEEN STRUCK IN THE HEART. AND YOU, NOBLE KRISS, WOULD HAVE KILLED YOURSELF RATHER THAN FALL INTO THEIR HANDS

ME? SUICIDE? YOU DON'T KNOW ME VERY WELL. WHAT'S YOUR NAME, YOU ARROGANT PUPP?

ER... DAREK. DAREK THE SVEAR. I COME FROM THE EASTERN SEAS.

DAREK THE SVEAR... STRANGE. I FEEL LIKE I'VE SEEN YOU BEFORE SOMEWHERE. AND IT WASN'T AMONG OUR MEN...

IF I MAY BE SO BOLD, YOU DON'T LOOK MUCH LIKE HOW WE PICTURE SHAIGAN THE MERCILESS, EITHER.

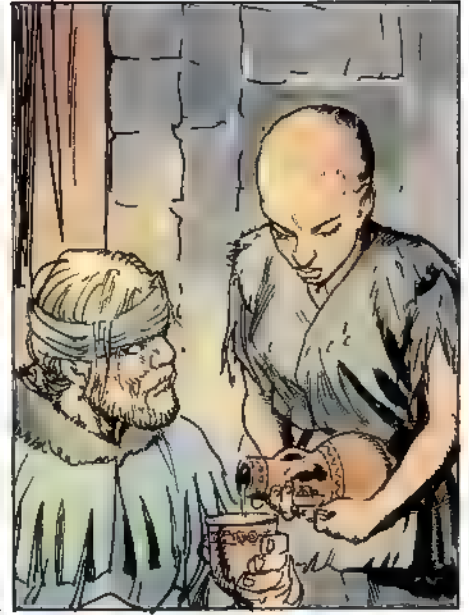
NO MATTER YOU MAY ONLY HAVE ONE WORKING EYE, DAREK THE SVEAR, BUT I LIKE WHAT I SEE IN IT. YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE THE BRUTES USUALLY UNDER OUR COMMAND. COME SHARE OUR MEAL...

I KNOW, AND IT OFTEN TROUBLES ME. YOU MUST HAVE BEEN TOLD I'VE LOST ALL MEMORY OF MY PAST, AND I CAN'T FIND ANYTHING HERE THAT REMINDS ME OF THE LIFE I LED BEFORE. IF IT WEREN'T FOR KRISS, I WOULDN'T EVEN KNOW WHO I AM.

SPEAKING OF WHICH, KRISS... WHAT DID YOU CALL ME WHEN THAT TRAITOR DROGAN TRIED TO STICK HIS DAGGER IN MY BACK?

I... I WAS SO UPSET, I DON'T REMEMBER ANYMORE... AH, HERE'S OUR MEAL.

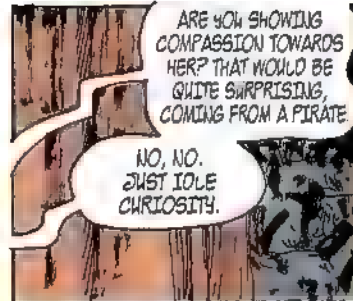




WHY IS THIS WOMAN'S  
FACE MARKED AND HER  
HEAD SHAVEN?

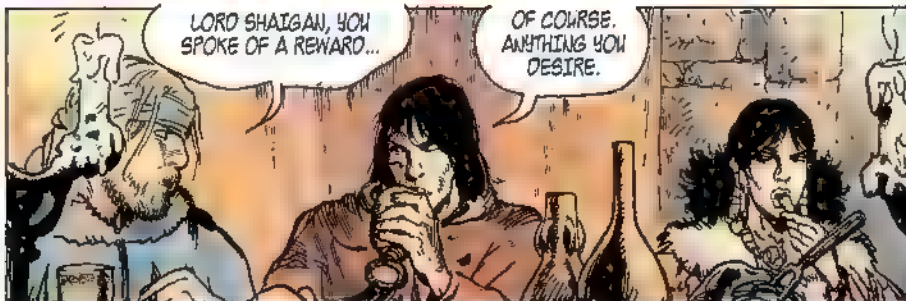
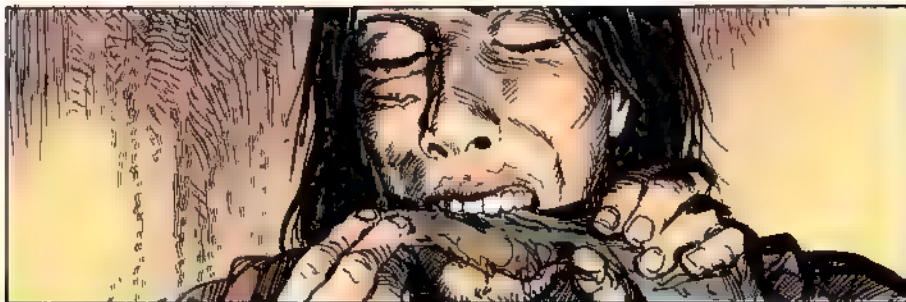
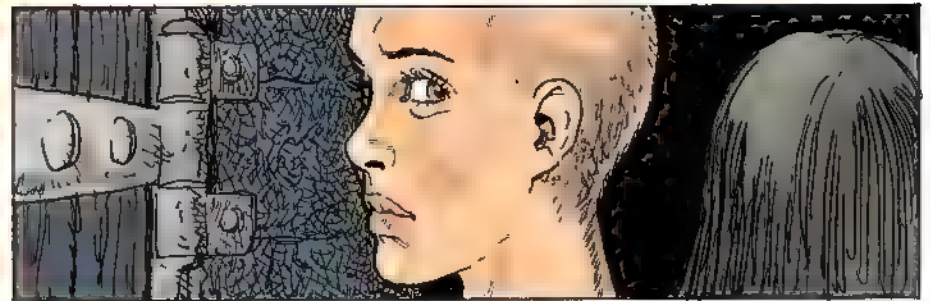


THAT'S NONE OF  
YOUR BUSINESS. THAT  
FEMALE'S MY PERSONAL  
SLAVE, AND I DO WITH  
HER AS I PLEASE.



ARE YOU SHOWING  
COMPASSION TOWARDS  
HER? THAT WOULD BE  
QUITE SURPRISING,  
COMING FROM A PIRATE.

NO, NO.  
JUST IOLE  
CURIOSITY.



LORD SHAIGAN, YOU  
SPOKE OF A REWARD...

OF COURSE.  
ANYTHING YOU  
DESIRE.



I WISH TO SPEND THE  
NIGHT IN THE CASTLE  
WITH THE SHAVEN-  
HEADED SLAVE.





THIS WILL BE YOUR ROOM FOR THIS NIGHT—BUT THIS NIGHT ONLY. LET ME REMIND YOU THAT WE LEAVE TOMORROW AT DAWN.

I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN, NOBLE KRISS.



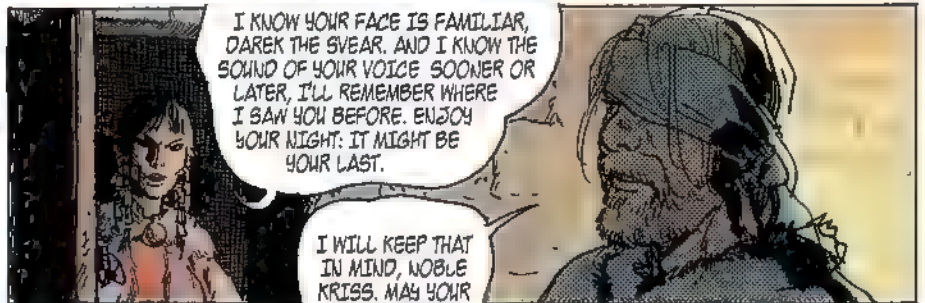
I AGREED TO YOUR REQUEST BECAUSE SHAIGAN GAVE HIS WORD, BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND. HOW COULD HAVE ASKED FOR GOLD, A CAPTAIN'S POSITION... WHY THIS FANCY?

BECAUSE I FEEL LIKE IT, THAT'S ALL. WE LACK WOMEN HERE.



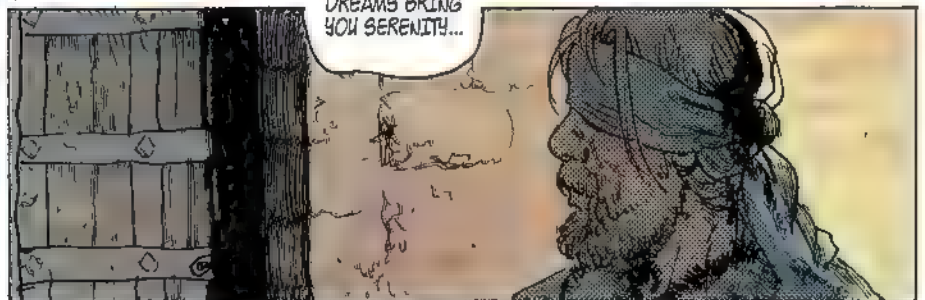
VERY WELL. BUT, REMEMBER THAT THIS SLAVE BELONGS TO ME. I FORBID YOU FROM MISTREATING HER UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

I PROMISE I WILL TREAT HER WITH THE UTMOST RESPECT, NOBLE KRISS.



I KNOW YOUR FACE IS FAMILIAR, DAREK THE SWEAR. AND I KNOW THE SOUND OF YOUR VOICE SOONER OR LATER, I'LL REMEMBER WHERE I SAW YOU BEFORE. ENJOY YOUR NIGHT: IT MIGHT BE YOUR LAST.

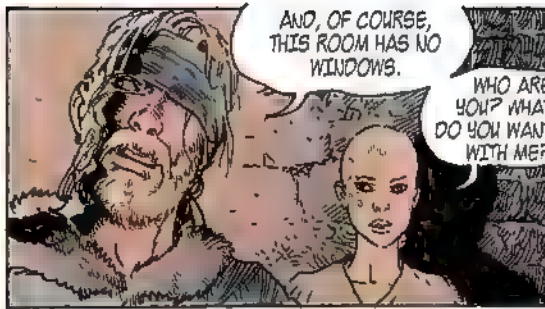
I WILL KEEP THAT IN MIND, NOBLE KRISS. MAY YOUR DREAMS BRING YOU SERENITY...







THE DOOR IS LOCKED FROM THE OUTSIDE, AND THERE'S PROBABLY A GUARD IN THE HALLWAY.



AND, OF COURSE, THIS ROOM HAS NO WINDOWS.

WHO ARE YOU? WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH ME?



YOU HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR FROM ME, AARICIA. IT'S... ER... JOLAN SENT ME. I CAME TO FREE YOU AND YOUR DAUGHTER.

JOLAN?!



BUT, HOW? WHERE IS HE? WHO ARE YOU?...

SHHHH... NOT SO LOUD... SOMEONE COULD HEAR US...



WHERE'S WOLF?...

LOCKED UP IN THE TOWER WITH OTHER SLAVE CHILDREN. KRISSE OF VALNOR USES HER TO FORCE ME TO OBEY HER. BUT... IT CAN'T BE DONE... THERE ARE GUARDS EVERYWHERE...

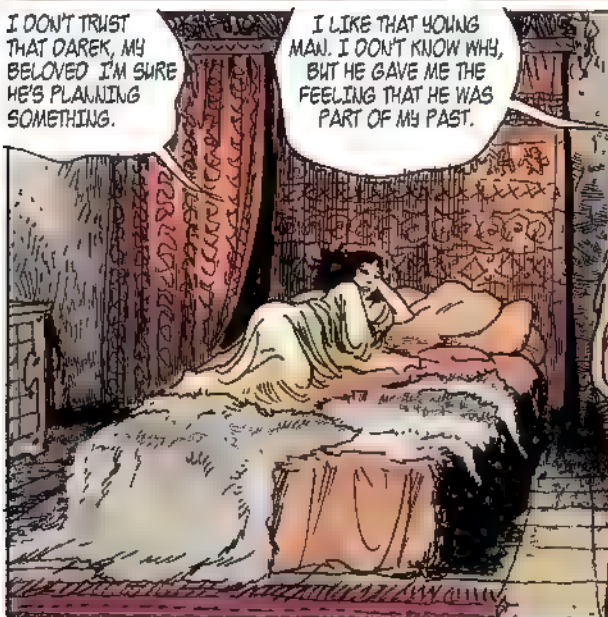


EVEN IF WE MANAGED TO ESCAPE THE CASTLE, WE WOULDN'T GET FAR. THE ENTIRE SURROUNDING AREA IS UNDER THAT ACCURSED WOMAN'S CONTROL.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT, AARICIA. WE'LL MAKE IT.



WE'LL LEAVE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT. IN THE MEANTIME, REST. YOU'LL NEED ALL YOUR STRENGTH.



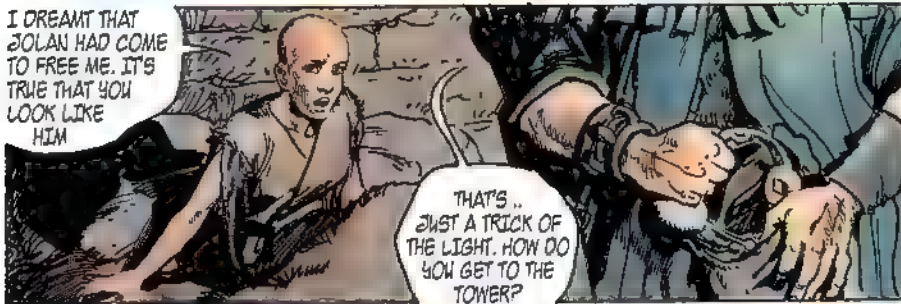
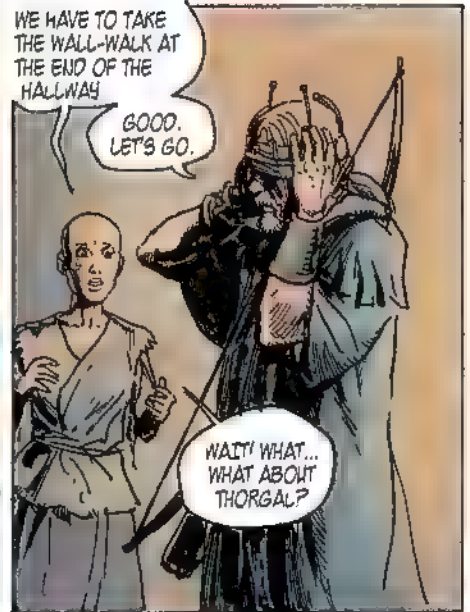
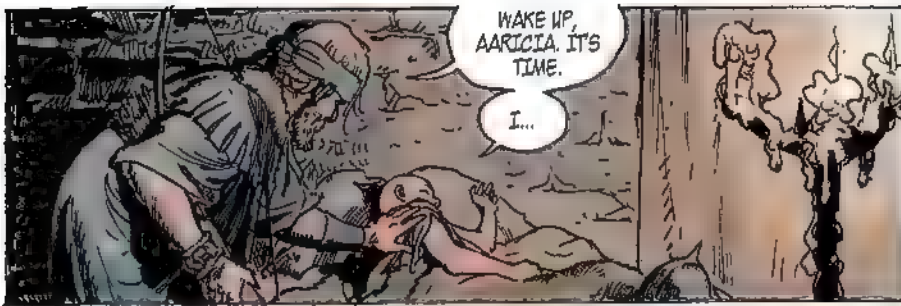
I DON'T TRUST THAT DAREK, MY BELOVED. I'M SURE HE'S PLANNING SOMETHING.

I LIKE THAT YOUNG MAN. I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT HE GAVE ME THE FEELING THAT HE WAS PART OF MY PAST.

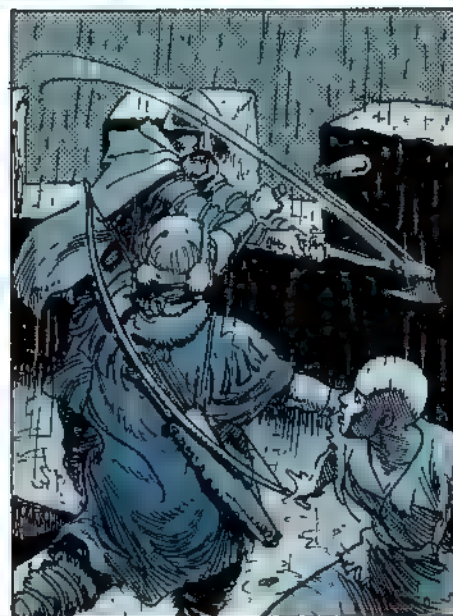


THAT FAST I SO MUCH WANT TO FIND AGAIN ONE DAY...













WHAT WAS THAT...  
I KNOW OF ONLY ONE  
PERSON WHO CAN DO  
SUCH A THING...

LATER,  
AARICIA.  
WHERE'S  
WOLFCUB?



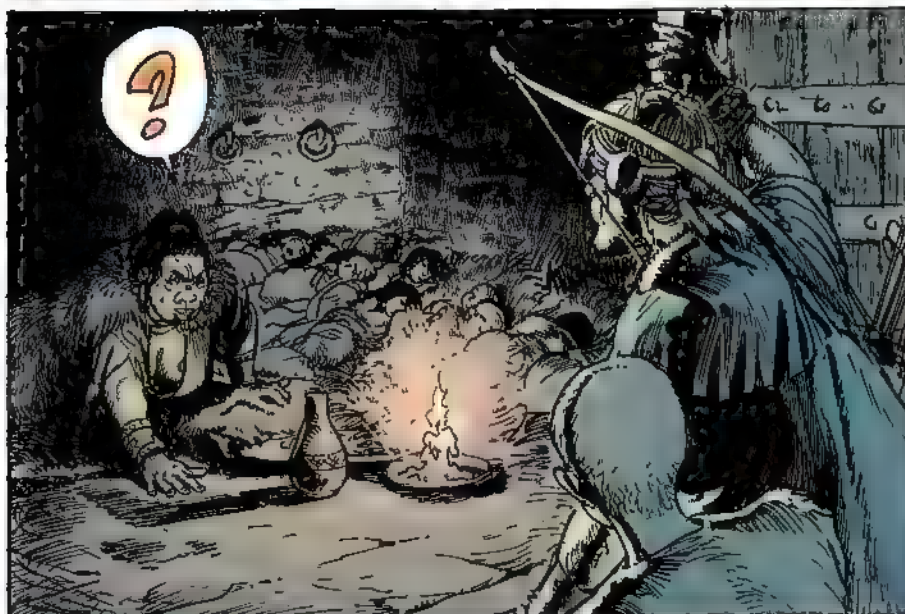
I DON'T KNOW. ALL  
THE WAY UP, I THINK,  
WITH THE OTHER  
CHILDREN.

LET'S GO! THAT  
BARRIER WON'T  
KEEP THEM AWAY  
FOR LONG.



HERE?

YES,  
PROBABLY...



?



WHOA... MUCH TO  
MY REGRET, I NEVER  
HAD A CHANCE TO LEARN  
HOW TO SPEAK TO  
LADIES...



... SO I HOPE YOU'LL  
FORGIVE MY LACK OF  
MANNERS.



WOLFCUB! WOLFCUB,  
SWEETHEART!  
AT LAST!

MAMA?...  
MAMA, IS  
THAT YOU?



VERY  
TOUCHING!





I SUSPECTED SOMETHING LIKE THIS, DAREK THE SVEAR. OR WHATEVER YOUR NAME IS. WHO PAID YOU TO DO THIS?

NO ONE. HAVE YOU REMEMBERED WHERE YOU'D SEEN ME BEFORE, KRISS OF VALNOR? LOOK AT WHAT I'M WEARING ON MY HEAD.



**OGOTAI'S CROWN!**

THAT... THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!... THAT'D MAKE YOU...?



YES.



I SHOULD KILL YOU FOR ALL THE EVIL YOU VISITED ON US, KRISS OF VALNOR...

AND I SHOULD HAVE KILLED YOU A LONG TIME AGO!



**AAAAH**



YOU EVIL WENCH!



YOU'RE HURT!...

IT'S NOTHING. HURRY, LET'S GET TO THE TOP OF THE TOWER. I CAN HEAR OUR PURSUERS COMING.



WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER CHILDREN?

THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO FOR THEM. HURRY UP!





IN A FEW  
MOMENTS, WE'LL  
BE SAVED.



THEY'RE  
COMING!

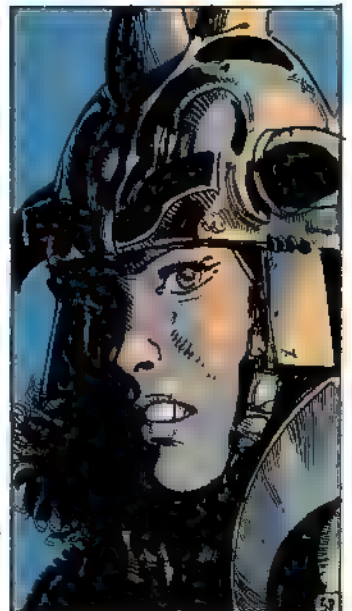


THERE  
THEY ARE!

WHAT ARE YOU  
WAITING FOR, YOU  
COWARDS!? THEY'VE  
GOT NOWHERE TO  
RUN.



HANG ON TIGHT,  
AARICIA. WE'RE  
LEAVING.



59

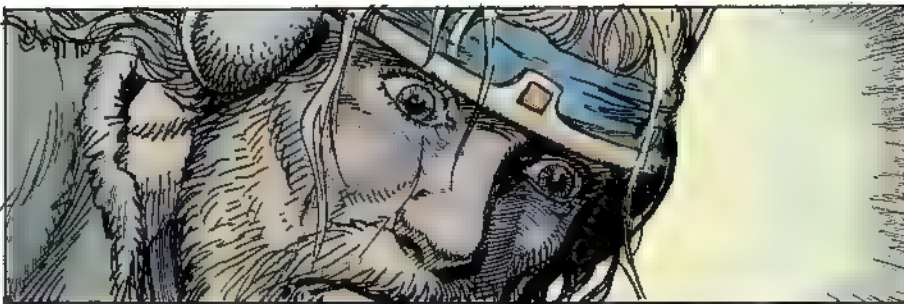
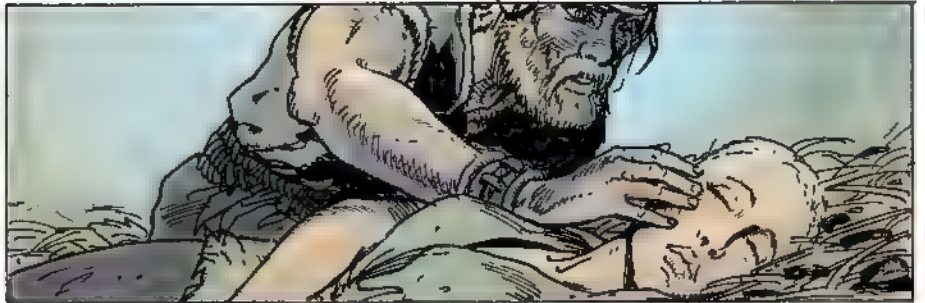




THEY PASSED OUT...  
GOOD. THAT'LL SPARE  
ME HAVING TO  
EXPLAIN WHAT  
HAPPENED.



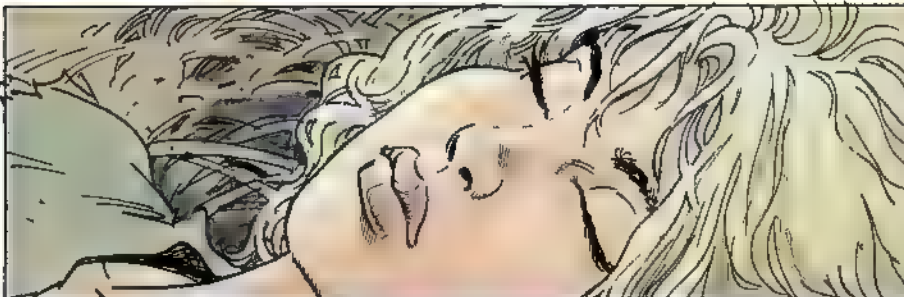
ALL THAT'S LEFT  
NOW IS TO KEEP A  
PROMISE I MADE  
YOU 15 YEARS  
AGO.



GOODBYE, AARICIA.  
SEE YOU IN 15 YEARS...  
MAYBE...



IT WON'T BE  
THAT SIMPLE,  
JOLAN.







JAAX!

IT WAS VERY CUNNING OF YOU TO COME BACK BEFORE THE MOMENT THAT I ARRIVED. BUT I'D PLANNED FOR THAT. GIVE ME THE TRAVELLER AND LET'S GO OUTSIDE. I HAVE A SURPRISE FOR YOU.



I WARNED YOU THAT ANOTHER WATCHER WOULD COME. I IMAGINE YOU'RE AWARE OF WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO YOU IF THAT BOY— THAT IS TO SAY, YOU— DISAPPEARED.

I'M BLEEDING TO DEATH, JAAX. I NO LONGER HAVE THE STRENGTH TO FIGHT.



I SUPPOSE THIS IS WHAT YOU CAME HERE TO GET? TAKE IT. I DON'T NEED IT ANYMORE. BUT I THOUGHT THAT WATCHERS HAD NO RIGHT TO INTERVENE PHYSICALLY?

YOU LEFT ME NO CHOICE, JOLAN. BUT I DIDN'T ONLY WAIT FOR YOU IN ORDER TO GET THE HEADPIECE...



WE CANNOT TOLERATE THAT A MAN, WHOEVER HE MAY BE, USE OUR SCIENCE TO MODIFY THE PAST TO HIS ADVANTAGE. FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW, YOU COMMITTED A CRIME.



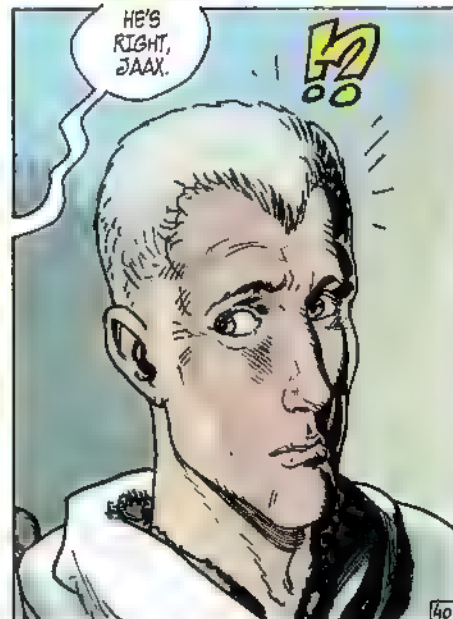
YOU KNOW FULL WELL THAT I ONLY ACTED TO SAVE THE PEOPLE I LOVE, WHO DIDN'T DESERVE TO DIE.

IT IS NEITHER YOUR PLACE NOR MINE TO DECIDE WHO DOES OR DOES NOT DESERVE TO DIE, JOLAN



WE CAME HERE TO RETRIEVE THE TRAVELLER AND THE HEADPIECE. AFTERWARDS, ONCE WE'VE TAKEN YOU BACK TO YOUR TIME, WE'LL BE FORCED TO PREVENT YOU FROM DOING WHAT YOU DID.

THAT'S ABSURD, JAAX. WHAT'S DONE IS DONE: THE PAST AS I CHANGED IT IS CURRENTLY THE ONLY PAST THAT EXISTS. WHAT WOULD BE THE POINT OF CHANGING IT AGAIN?



HE'S RIGHT, JAAX.





THE HIGH  
WATCHER?



YOU'VE ALREADY COMMITTED ONE  
FAULT BY LETTING YOURSELF BE SUR-  
PRISED. AND, YOU WERE ABOUT TO  
COMMIT ANOTHER IN TRYING  
TO REPAIR THE FIRST

THAT BOY SAID IT: WHAT'S DONE IS  
DONE. GOING BACK TO THE EARLIER  
SITUATION WOULD FORCE US TO ACT  
AGAINST THE VERY PRINCIPLES OF  
OUR CHARTER

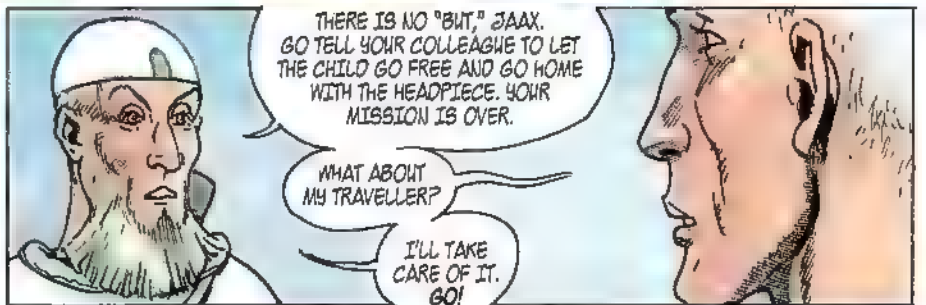


BUT... HIGH  
WATCHER,  
WE'RE GOING  
TO CREATE A  
PARADOX...

I KNOW. AND YOU—YOU CREATED ANOTHER ONE  
BY BRINGING LITTLE JOLAN HERE BEFORE HE  
LANDS ON THE ISLAND. I'VE HAD TO INTERVENE  
PERSONALLY TO TRY AND RESOLVE ALL THAT.



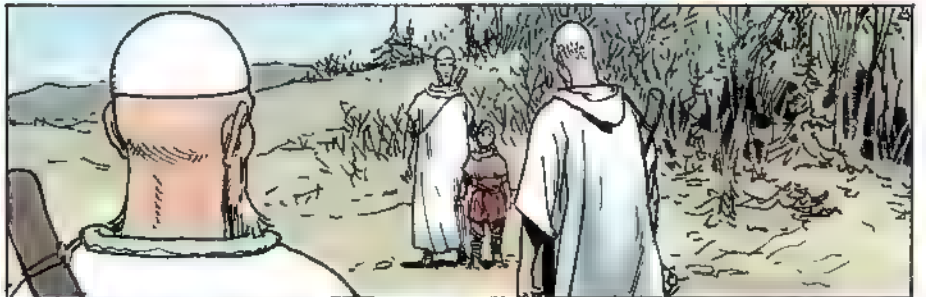
BUT...



THERE IS NO "BUT," JAAX.  
GO TELL YOUR COLLEAGUE TO LET  
THE CHILD GO FREE AND GO HOME  
WITH THE HEADPIECE. YOUR  
MISSION IS OVER.

WHAT ABOUT  
MY TRAVELLER?

I'LL TAKE  
CARE OF IT.  
GO!



YOU'RE THEIR...  
LORD... AREN'T  
YOU?

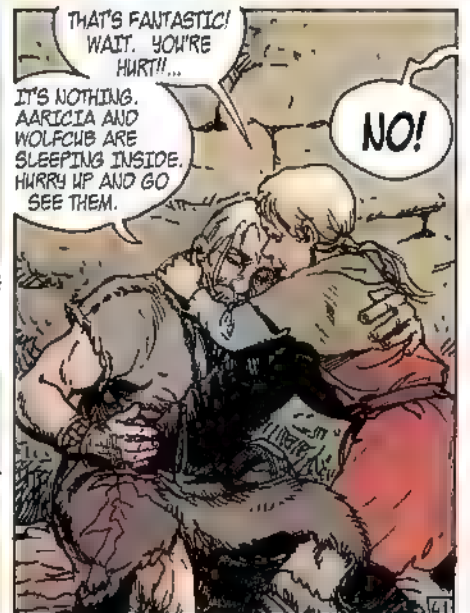


IN A MANNER  
OF SPEAKING. JAAX  
IS ONE OF MY BEST  
MEN, BUT OUR TASK IS  
NOT AN EASY ONE.  
SOMETIMES, WE  
MAKE MISTAKES.



DID YOU SUCCEED?  
ARE THEY  
ALIVE?

YES, LITTLE  
BROTHER.  
THEY'RE  
ALIVE.



THAT'S FANTASTIC!  
WAIT. YOU'RE  
HURT!...

IT'S NOTHING.  
AARICIA AND  
WOLFCUB ARE  
SLEEPING INSIDE.  
HURRY UP AND GO  
SEE THEM.

NO!





IF YOU SAW YOUR MOTHER AND SISTER NOW, IT WOULD ONLY COMPLICATE MATTERS. YOU'LL MEET UP WITH THEM LATER.

WHY CAN'T I SEE THEM NOW?

BECAUSE THAT WOULD CREATE A TEMPORAL DISTORTION. YOU SEE, JAAX BROUGHT YOU HERE BEFORE THE MOMENT YOU ARRIVED ON THE ISLAND FOR THE FIRST TIME. IF YOU STAY HERE, THERE WILL SOON BE TWO TEN-YEAR-OLD JOLANS HERE AT THE SAME TIME, WHICH IS IMPOSSIBLE, AND YOU'D BOTH DISAPPEAR.



HERE, TAKE JAAX'S TRAVELLER. I SET IT UP FOR YOU.

WHERE... WHERE WILL I GO?

TO THE PROPER PLACE FOR YOU IN THE NEAR FUTURE. WHERE THIS ALL BEGAN.



THEN... WE WON'T SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN?

NO. THE FACT IS THAT YOU TWO SHOULD NEVER HAVE MET IN THE FIRST PLACE. YOU WERE VERY CLEVER AND BOLD, JOLAN. BUT MOST OF ALL, YOU WERE VERY LUCKY.



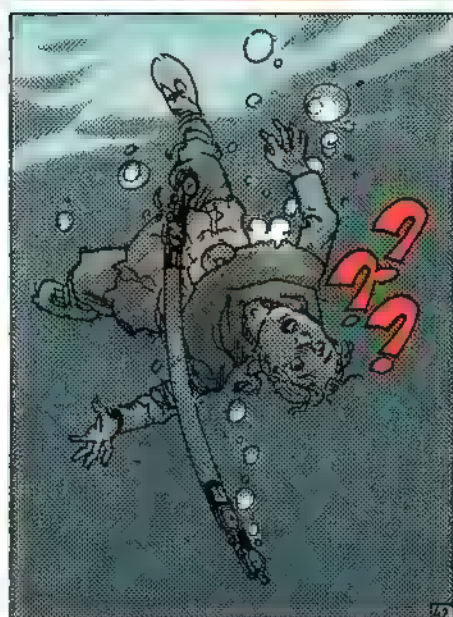
THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT THORGAL, AARICIA AND WOLFCUB ARE ALIVE. GOODBYE, BIG BROTHER. YOU WERE BRILLIANT!

YOU WERE BRILLIANT! GOODBYE, LITTLE BROTHER.



YOU'RE LEAVING THE TRAVELLER WITH HIM? I SUPPOSE YOUR WATCHERS WILL GO GET IT BACK.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT. WHERE IT'LL END UP, NO ONE WILL EVER FIND IT.



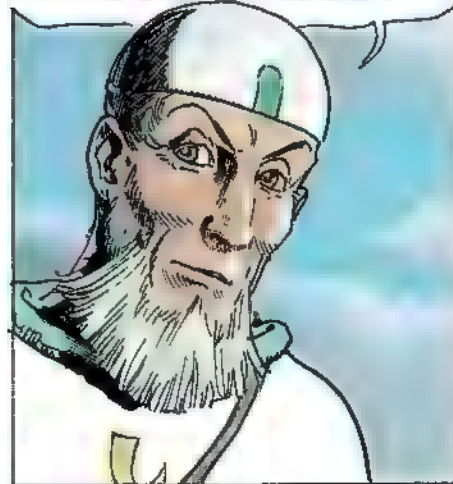




THAT WAS THE PRICE TO PAY BUT, MY LIFE IS OF NO IMPORT.

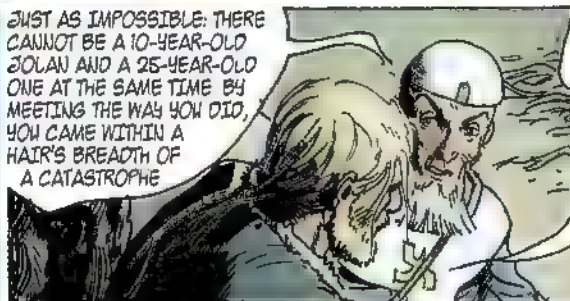
NOW, TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR CASE, JOLAN. IT'S A MORE COMPLICATED ONE. I IMAGINE YOU'VE UNDERSTOOD THAT BY SAVING YOUR PARENTS, YOU WERE DOOMING YOURSELF?

THIS ISN'T ABOUT YOUR LIFE OR DEATH BY CHANGING THE PAST, YOU CHANGED THE FUTURE, JOLAN. YOUR FUTURE. THE 15 YEARS OF SOLITUDE YOU LIVED ON YOUR ISLAND WILL NO LONGER EXIST, FOR THE DESTINY OF LITTLE JOLAN WILL TAKE A VERY DIFFERENT PATH FROM HERE ON.



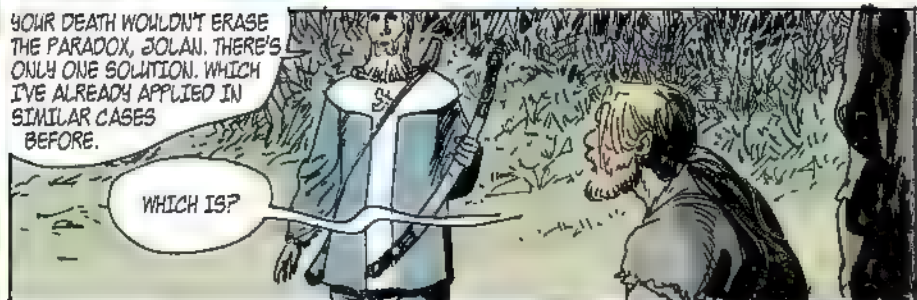
WHAT IF I STAYED... NOW?

IF I SENT YOU BACK TO YOUR TIME, THERE WOULD BE TWO 25-YEAR-OLD JOLANS SIMULTANEOUSLY, EACH HAVING LED A DIFFERENT LIFE. THAT IS THE KIND OF PARADOX WE MUST AVOID AT ALL COSTS.



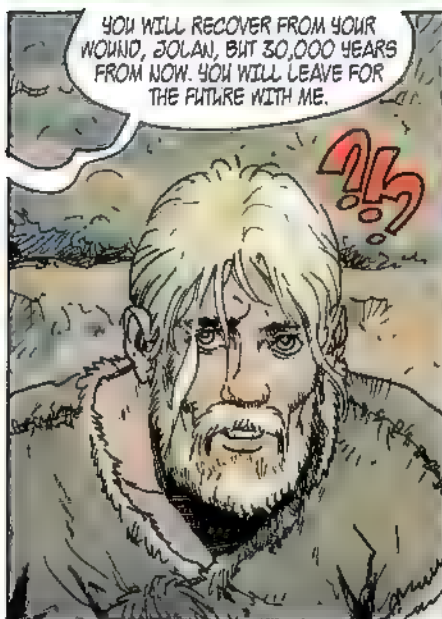
JUST AS IMPOSSIBLE: THERE CANNOT BE A 10-YEAR-OLD JOLAN AND A 25-YEAR-OLD ONE AT THE SAME TIME BY MEETING THE WAY YOU DID, YOU CAME WITHIN A HAIR'S BREADTH OF A CATASTROPHE

THE PROBLEM WILL SOON SOLVE ITSELF ANYWAY. I'M BLEEDING TO DEATH, HIGH WATCHER. I'M NOT LONG FOR THIS WORLD.



YOUR DEATH WOULDN'T ERASE THE PARADOX, JOLAN. THERE'S ONLY ONE SOLUTION. WHICH I'VE ALREADY APPLIED IN SIMILAR CASES BEFORE.

WHICH IS?

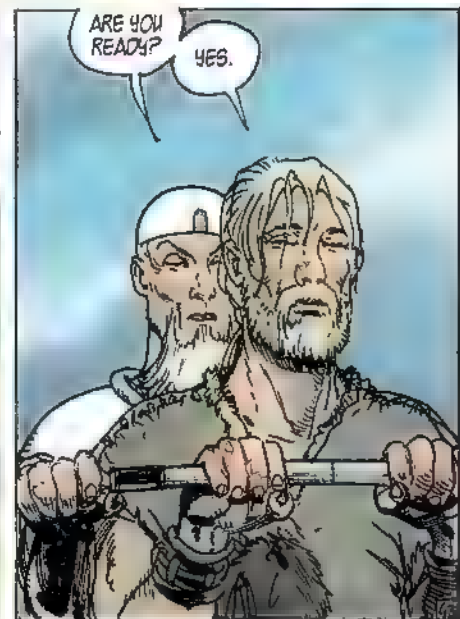


YOU WILL RECOVER FROM YOUR WOUND, JOLAN, BUT 30,000 YEARS FROM NOW. YOU WILL LEAVE FOR THE FUTURE WITH ME.



THIRTY THOUSAND YEARS?

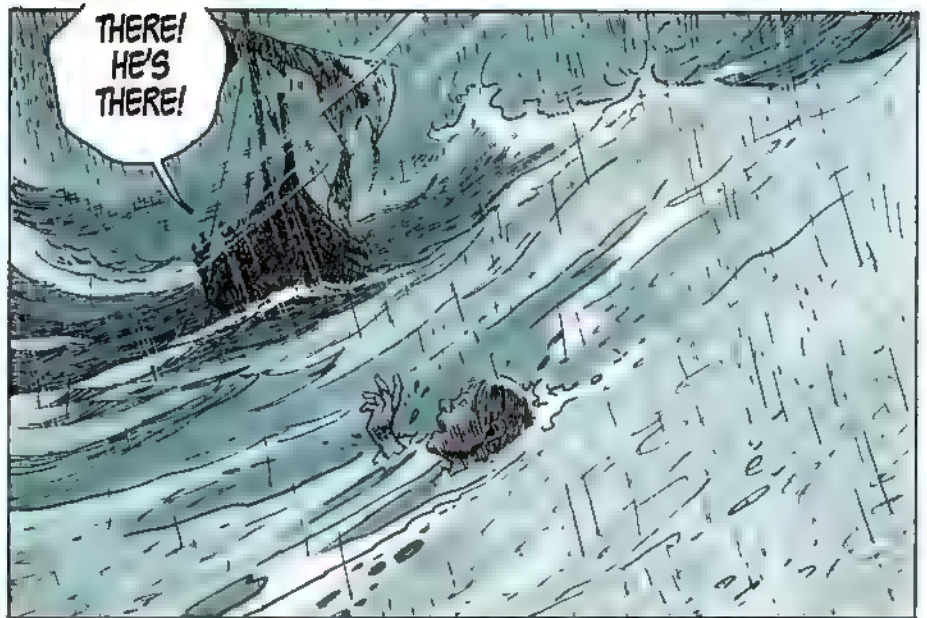
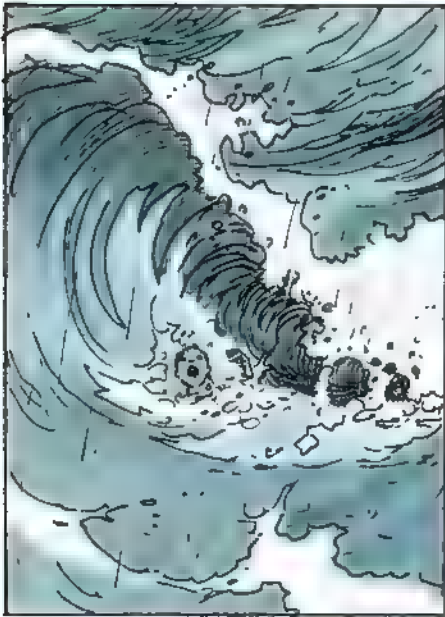
YOU'LL HEAL, BUT YOU'LL NEVER COME BACK. YOU WILL LIVE THE REST OF YOUR DAYS IN THE TIME PERIOD TO WHICH I'M TAKING YOU, NEVER TO LEAVE IT AGAIN. IT'S THE ONLY WAY, AND WE MUST TAKE IT IMMEDIATELY. COME...



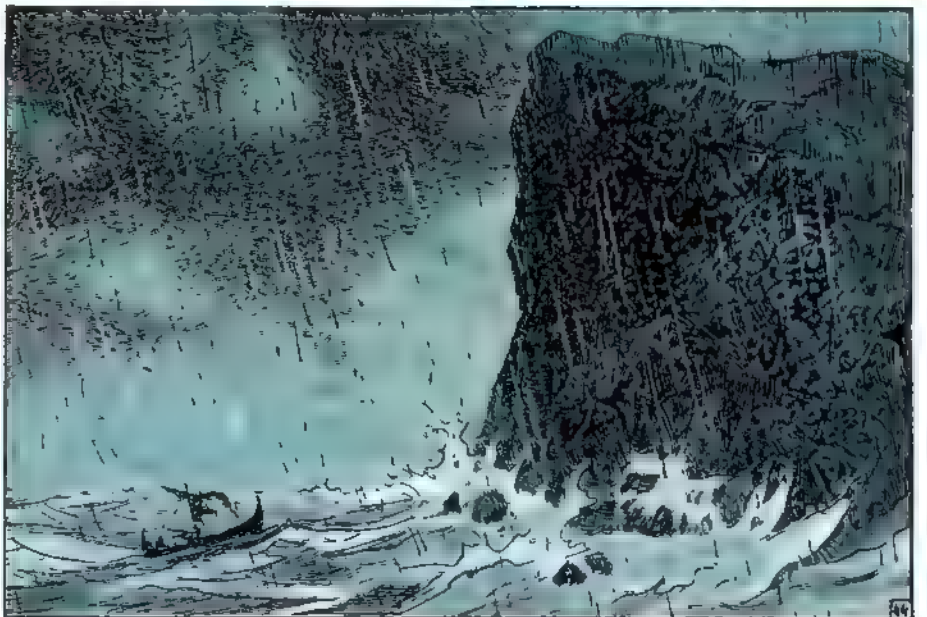
ARE YOU READY?

YES.





**REEFS AHEAD! COME  
HELP ME, QUICK!**







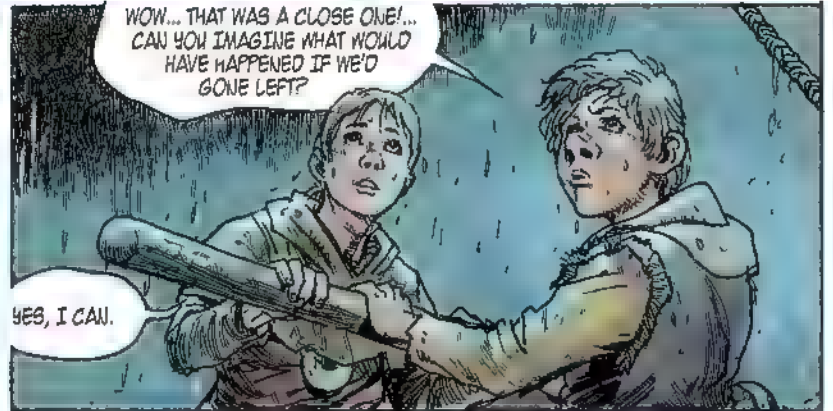
IT LOOKS  
EASIER TO  
NAVIGATE TO  
THE LEFT...

NO! GO  
RIGHT! YOU  
MUST GO  
RIGHT!



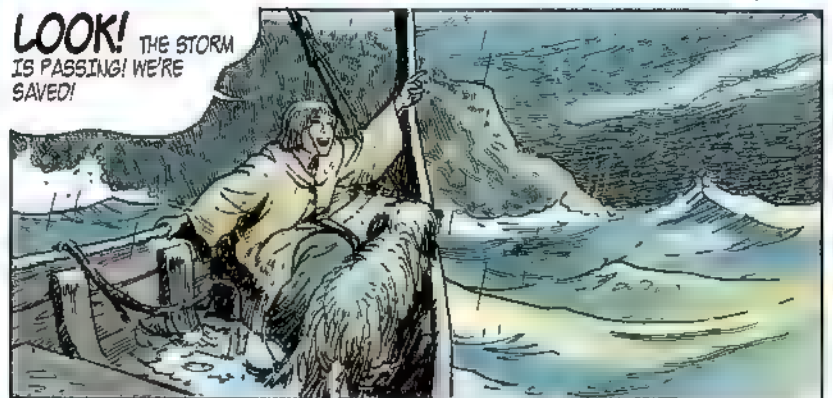
BUT...

GO RIGHT,  
I TELL YOU!

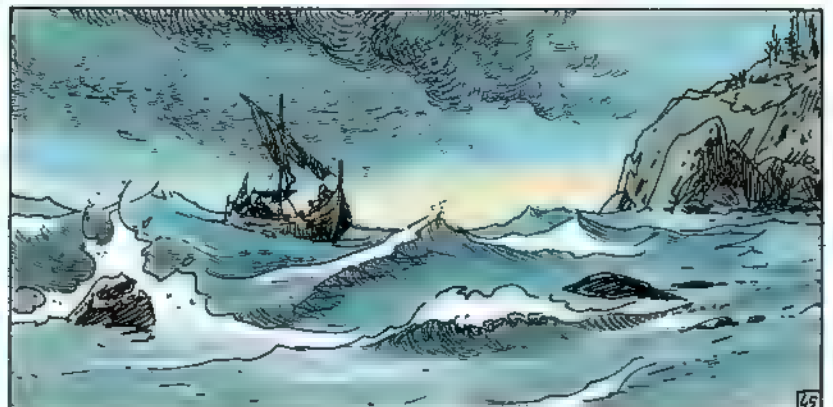


WOW... THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE!...  
CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT WOULD  
HAVE HAPPENED IF WE'D  
GONE LEFT?

YES, I CAN.



LOOK! THE STORM  
IS PASSING! WE'RE  
SAVED!









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(Dargaud-Lombard SA)

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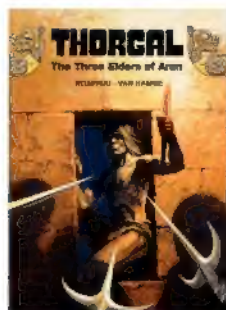


# THORGAL

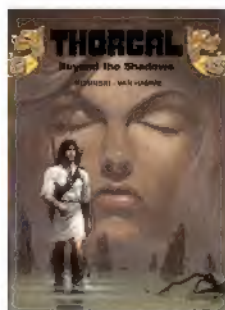
THE GODS HAVE PUT A MAN TO THE TEST



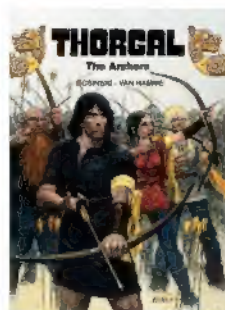
1 Child of the Stars  
Incl. Aaricia



2 The Three Elders of Aran  
Incl. The Black Galley



3 Beyond the Shadows  
Incl. The Fall of Brek Zarith



4 The Archers  
Incl. Alinoe



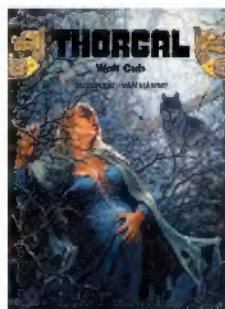
5 The Land of Qa  
Incl. The Eyes of Tanatloc



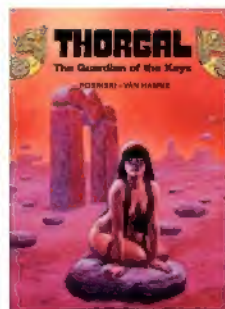
6 City of the Lost God  
Incl. Between Earth and Sun



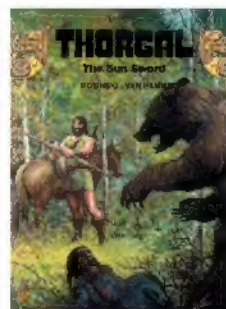
7 The Master of the Mountains



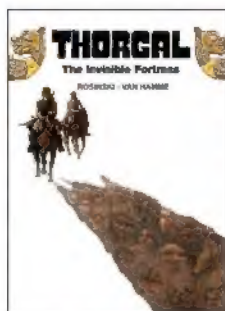
8 Wolf Cub



9 The Guardian of the Keys



10 The Sun Sword



11 The Invisible Fortress



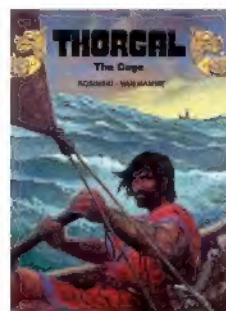
12 The Brand of the Exiles



13 Ogotai's Crown



14 Giants



15 The Cage



Grzegorz Rosinski, Artist of the series  
Thorgal, Chninkel, The Revenge of Count Skarbek...



Jean Van Hamme, Scriptwriter of the series  
Thorgal, XIII, Largo Winch, Lady S Wayne Shelton...

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